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ISSUE 45 APRIL 2015

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AFL & NRL
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MIKE
TYSON

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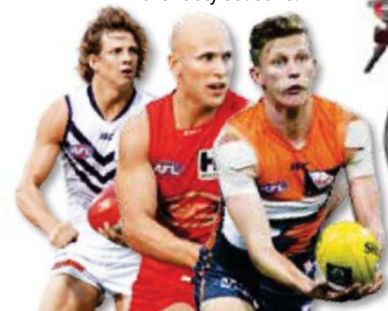
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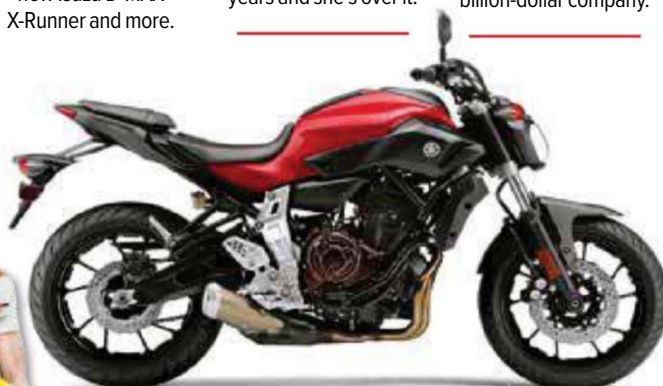
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STUFF THAT KEPT US SANE THIS MONTH...

A former Big Brother beauty, MAXIM model party love, and Breaking Bad props!



Editor-in-Chief **Santi Pintado** on set with this month's cover girl, and ex-Big Brother babe, **Jade Albany**. See **page 42** for her sexy shoot.



MAXIM parties aren't complete until our jumpsuit girls **Britta**, **Tamika**, and **Olivia** turn up and create chaos! See **page 12** for more tomfoolery.



MAXIM TV host **James Kerley** popped over to the Netflix US office and got more than one scoop. Heisenberg!!! See **page 52** for the full story.

ASK THE GRILL TEAM



The trio from Triple M's Grill Team in Sydney – Gus Worland, Mark Geyer, and Matty Johns – answer a tough topic each month

THIS MONTH: WHY IS RUGBY LEAGUE BETTER THAN AFL FOOTY?



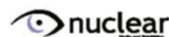
GUS: Rugby league is a tougher game and you actually have to catch the ball and you're not allowed to knock it on, which is what the AFL footballers continuously do. And in rugby league you only get points if you do something right. This is unlike the AFL where if you miss you still get a point.



MG: There are a few reasons. Firstly, rugby league has State of Origin, the AFL doesn't. Secondly, the interchange – we have 10 and they have like 125 or something, so there's no attrition whatsoever. And thirdly, they continue with their three-strikes-you're-out policy as far as illicit drugs go.



MATTY: I'm with MG – State of Origin, it's a given. We also have international footy and the AFL doesn't. They have to play Ireland in some other type of game which is like our rugby league Kangaroos playing England in soccer. And apart from these reasons, well... just because it is.



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Valentine's Day Eve Party

The Crystal Palace at Sydney's Luna Park was pumping with over 500 VIP guests at MAXIM Australia magazine's recent V-Day Eve party. Presented by our good mates at matchmaking app **Tinder**, the action kicked off on the red carpet as regular punters rubbed shoulders with famous faces including **Gabi Grecko** and her main squeeze **Geoffrey Edelsten**, Kyle Sandilands' girlfriend **Imogen Anthony**, *Big Brother's* **Jade Albany** and *BB* couple **Lisa Clark & Jake Richardson**, performers for the night – *The Voice's* **Laura-Leigh Smith**, DJ (and Warchie's ex-flame) **Emily Scott** and the sexy **Dem Foxes** – MAXIM cover girls **Sheridyn Fisher**, **Laura Lydall** and **Joanna Hill**, and many more! With the beer, wine, cocktails, and **Jägermeister** flowing freely, the MAXIM girls rocked their red jumpsuits and took over the dancefloor. Big special thanks again to **Buderim Ginger Beer**, **UE MEGABOOM**, **Chambord**, **Two Birds Brewing**, **Forbidden Fruit Cider**, **Treasury Wine Estates** and **Tsingtao Beer** for your support.



GABI GRECKO & HER GEOFF
WITH MAXIM EDITOR, SANTI



IMOGEN ANTHONY & MARC JAMES



JOANNA & LAURA



KIIS FM'S RODNEY O



MAXIM MD MICHAEL WITH BRITTA, TAMIKA, SANTI & OLIVIA



BIG BROTHER'S JAKE & LISA

JADE ALBANY

MAXIM'S SHERIDYN FISHER

LAURA-LEIGH SMITH

DJ EMILY SCOTT

DEM FOXES



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— UP FRONT —





Super Girl

Shantel VanSanten, star of the trippy new sci-fi show *The Messengers*, on web lies, special powers, and rising from the dead

PHOTOS: RENÉ & RADKA

WORDS: THEODORE ROSS





The story of your new show, *The Messengers*, seems a little complicated, so why don't you give us the elevator pitch:

It's what meets what?

I play an astronomer who watches a mysterious object plummeting from the sky. When it hits, my heart stops briefly – I die! – and when I come back to life, I have this special power. It turns out there are five other people like me, also with gifts, and then we have to basically save the world from an impending apocalypse.

So, it's *Lost* meets *The Matrix* meets *The Walking Dead*? I would say *The Leftovers* meets *The Matrix* meets – who knows? It's a Rapture story, loosely based on the *Book of Revelation*. There are the Four Horsemen: pestilence, death, famine – I always forget the last one.

You got me beat already. That's two more than I could do. War! It's war. Makes for really great bad guys.

Can you tell me your gift? Afraid I can't. As of a month ago, I didn't even know it myself. But I can tell you this: We're not superheroes. We couldn't just take over the world or anything. Our gifts always have either a physical or mental limitation. Each of us does very different things, so we need to find each other and work together in order to succeed or fail. That's the coolest part.

I've heard you didn't have a TV as a kid. Why not? Growing up as a young girl on a farm in Minnesota, it's just not something you have. I don't even know if you could get cable there. You got, like, three channels – it was *The Price Is Right*, soap operas, and then the news. And later we moved to Texas, where being a kid was all about being outside and getting involved in sports, not watching TV. The other night I had a big dinner with friends and everyone talked about their favourite movie, and I just started to laugh because I haven't seen *The Godfather* or any of the epic, classic movies that everyone was talking about.

Were you a jock? No. I was good enough in softball or golf to hit the ball really, really far, but never in the right direction. I was a nerd: president of the glee club, president of the yearbook staff. I even started a book club!

I came across another interesting story about you on the Internet... Are you gonna say that I was "secretly married" and have two kids?

Yeah. Plus the best one: that you are the highest-paid actress in the world. Well, if that's the case, then I feel sorry for everybody else! I got a text the other day from an ex-boyfriend and he was like, "Did you get married?"

I'm thinking, I don't even have a boyfriend; I don't know what you're talking about. He was like, "Oh, well, that's not what the Web says." And I thought, Oh, you're gonna believe the Internet. I'm single, no kids, and I guess now I'm broke [laughs].

Speaking of boyfriends: your first. What's he up to now? My first real boyfriend was the bagger at a grocery store. He enlisted in the Army and has been there ever since, I think.

Do you have "a type"? No. I feel like I've dated everything: every nationality, race, religion. Guys in a band,

an actor, a chef, a financial adviser. I don't discriminate when it comes to that.

Fair enough. Is there anything else we should know?

Well, you didn't ask me about my hidden talent. I can pick my nose with my tongue! Actually, I can make my tongue reach all the way down to my chin and then go all the way to my nose. ■

“
I've dated
every nationality,
race, religion.
An actor, a chef,
a financial
adviser. I don't
discriminate
when it comes
to that.
”

“
I can make my
tongue reach
all the way
down to my
chin and then
go all the way
to my nose.
”



STYLIST: JEFF K. KIM FOR THEONLY.AGENCY;
HAIR: LUKE CHAMBERLAIN AT THE MAGNET
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GONZALEZ AT THE MAGNET AGENCY USING
CHARLOTTE TILBURY; **MANICURE:** EMI KUDO
AT OPUS BEAUTY USING CHANEL

MAXIM MOUTH WILL FERRELL

Arguably the funniest man in the world talks prison, learning Capoeira, Meryl Streep's crush on him, and oh, his new film *Get Hard*



Tell us about your role in *Get Hard*.

I am this hedge-fund manager, this star in the investment world, who is wrongly accused of embezzling all of this money; the judge, who is tired of seeing white-collar criminals just being thrown to these country club prisons, throws the book at me in a massive way — 10 years in a maximum security prison.

What's Kevin Hart's role in all this?

I run into Kevin's character (Darnell), and wrongly assume that he has spent time in jail, and before he is about to punch me in the face I offer him \$30,000 to train me to get me ready for prison. Along the way he corrects assumptions I have about him, and vice versa, and a friendship develops. Even though I am the smart, Harvard-educated one, it is Darnell who has the street smarts to help me figure out how to solve my situation.

By assuming the black guy has been in prison, is it fair to also assume your character is a little bit racist?

James is very much into statistical analysis, that's how he has concluded Darnell has gone to prison. When we first meet each other, I say,

"Statistically speaking, one out of three African-Americans, considering your low economic status and your lack of college education, are incarcerated in their lifetime, so that's how I know you went to prison." It's amazing that it comes off funny because it's actually a real piece of information, some study that someone did. It's fun to point that out.

Who or what was your inspiration for this role?

With all due respect to anyone who went to Harvard, I was thinking 'Harvard asshole' as my inspiration; someone who really thinks that because of their position in life they know exactly how the world operates, and they are pretty secure in that they don't need to have any other outside experiences. As much as my character knows about financial dealings and how to make a lot of money, he really is completely ignorant of the rest of how the real world works and how people operate within that.

Where did the idea come from for this movie?

From if you ever were to be sent to jail for some reason — and everyone's had that thought, "Oh my God, what would I do?" Well, you would either try to flee the country or you would learn how to fight. Or take up

Capoeira. So it's playing with that. And at the same time, we're having fun with dispelling a lot of the assumptions about race. It's a chance for Kevin's character to say, "Do you think all black people think so or do this?" And it's a chance for me to go, "Well no. I don't represent that."

Did you actually learn Capoeira for the role?

I learnt enough to where me doing it at my best, which is what you see in the movie, is awful. It's difficult. Yet in the movie, I am trying my best to look good, and people are like, "It looks hilarious."

Does it also say something about the economic disparity that exists in society?

Yeah. Obviously the goal of the movie is just to be hilarious but on the way we point out how... there's a little bit of social commentary in there. There is a lot of anti-Wall Street sentiment right now. A lot of people don't understand how it works, about how these people make all this money. And yet there are still no jobs.

Did you get to visit many prisons during the filming?

We shot in a real jail. It reminded me that I don't ever want to be in that situation. But a block of the female inmates were very

friendly, waving through the plate glass window. And I have, as a tourist, visited Alcatraz, in San Francisco, a couple of times. And I recommend it to anyone. It's an interesting historical site.

Have you ever had any run-ins with the police yourself?

I grew up in the mean suburb of Irvine, California. It's a pretty tough neighbourhood. I once got a bicycle ticket from Irvine PD for not coming to a complete stop at a STOP sign. My other encounter with law enforcement is getting pulled over in Los Angeles in my Prius, doing 50 in a 35 zone.

If the roles were reversed and you had to teach Kevin how to survive in a white man's world, what would you teach him?

I would teach him how to wear his wallet in his front pocket, how to iron his jeans and wear braided leather belts; always signal when making a left-hand turn, with blinker AND arm. What else? I think Kevin takes a lot of his fashion cues from me normally anyway, in real life, so with that we are on the same page. Kevin is the most put together person I have ever been around. I am always in a weird Adidas tracksuit with orange socks, and with him, everything is matching

SOME OF OUR FAVE WILL BITS



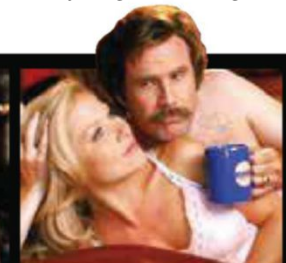
Anchorman (2004): "It's so damn hot! Milk was a bad choice."



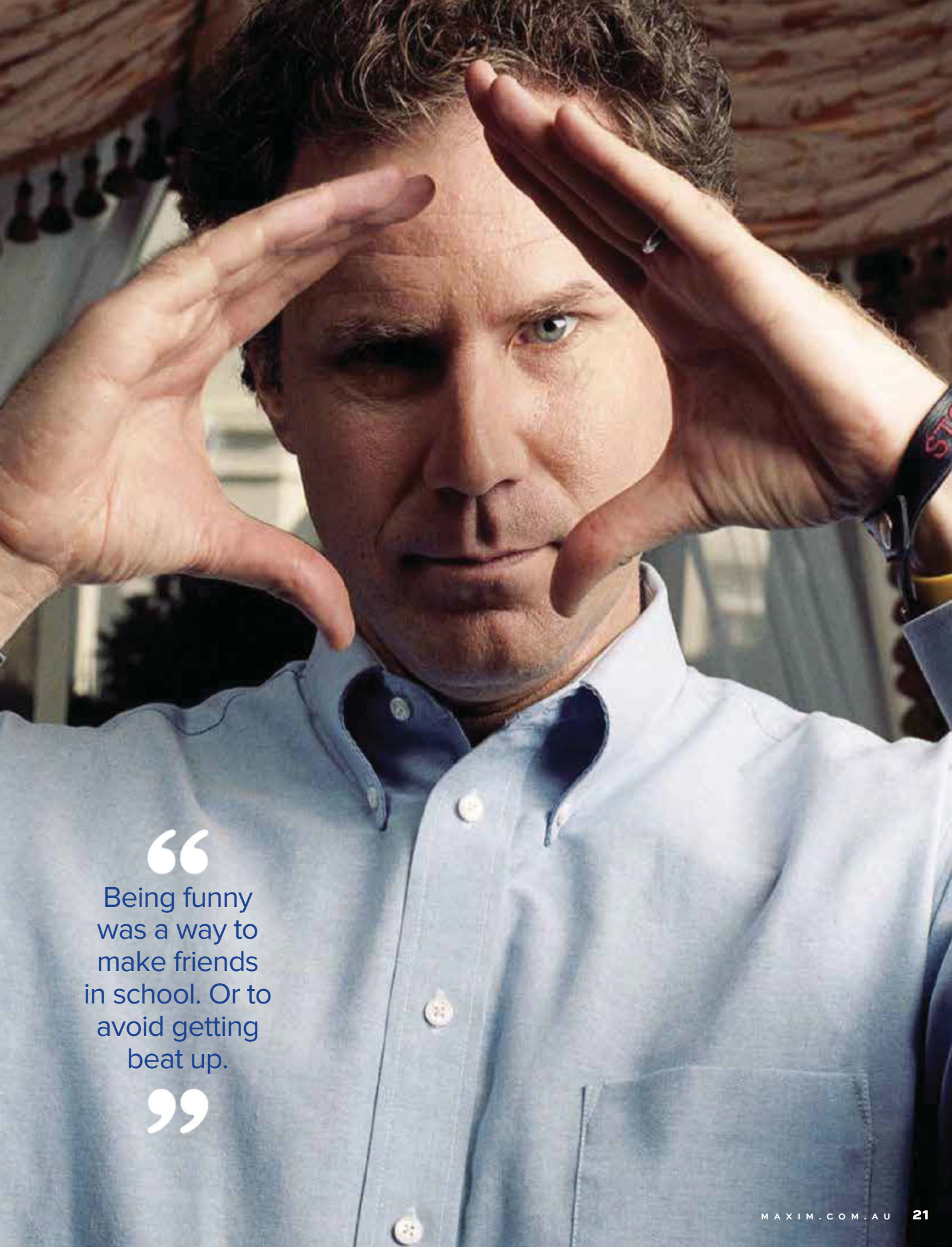
Zoolander (2001): "I feel like I'm taking crazy pills!"



Semi-Pro (2008): "Free throws are the best facet of my game."



Anchorman (2004): "Tip of the cap to you as well, Miss Corningstone."



“

Being funny
was a way to
make friends
in school. Or to
avoid getting
beat up.

”

– the bracelet, the watch, the necklace... how does he do it?

Apparently you're more successful than Tom Cruise now, with all the movies that you have done?

I love it. I'm going to print up T-shirts!

Do you know when you have finished a movie which ones are going to be huge and which ones are not going to do so well?

No, sadly I still have no sense. My barometer hasn't got any sharper. I think anyone who says they 'know', like, "I knew right away!" – they're lying. When you see the edited film, you just have to be like, "That's it. We made something that was different." It's up to the Gods from that point. You never know when a movie is going to hit the zeitgeist.

Do you feel like you have a few movies that are under-appreciated?

Are there movies of mine that I feel don't get enough credit? One comes to mind, as someone approached me about it recently and was being really complimentary, but we did this movie, *Casa de Mi Padre*, which was entirely in Spanish and that was an example of where people went, "Really? An American comedy star who doesn't speak Spanish does an entire movie in Spanish?"

A lot of the statistics say that the Hispanic audience is one of the largest movie-going audiences in at least American, if not the world. So that felt weird. But you can't get caught up in it.

You seem very happy. What do you put it down to?

I don't really think about it a whole lot because when you're in the midst of something like

this, especially for me, there's no air of cockiness whatsoever. I just know the nature of comedy. I never really wink at what we are doing. I'm fully committed to these characters, I'll go places a lot of people won't go. But I don't take anything for granted. I grew up in a kind of entertainment family with my father being a musician, so I saw how susceptible you are to the ups and downs of this business. So I've just learned to not take anything for granted, but I'm so happy that it's going well.

What's the worst it has been? Ever had any major 'downs'?

I guess I haven't so far. It's funny. If you read some magazines, there was maybe one year that I was. I think the films in one year were *Kicking & Screaming*, *Bewitched*, *The Producers*, and *Melinda and Melinda*. And they decided that was a year that was rocky. But they considered *Melinda and Melinda*, in a lot of stuff I read, that I held my own in a Woody Allen movie. *Kicking & Screaming* turned out to be a really big hit with families. *Bewitched* didn't perform the way they thought it was going to yet it made something like US\$125 million – which still seems OK! And *The Producers*, I was only in about six scenes and I was nominated for a Golden Globe. So, that was my bad year. I survived!

How did you come to be a funny guy?

You can't take a stand-up comedy class and learn how to be funny. Being funny was a way to make friends in school. Or to avoid getting beat up. "I ain't gonna punch you, come make me laugh at lunch!" And it was a way to meet girls, even though it still didn't work for me. I think as a kid, you are drawn to watching

funny things.

Did you always want to become an actor?

It's funny, I did actually. I was like 10 and I wrote an essay and we had to write a paragraph on who we wanted to be when we grew up. I literally had written an essay on how I wanted to be a professional soccer player and a comedian in the off-season – so one out of the two, not bad!

And you're really into soccer.

Yeah I was the weird kid at school who liked soccer. I started playing in the third grade and just loved it. I'll still kick a ball around with my son. Or my wife.

Have you let your kids watch any of your movies?

I remember my eldest son saw *Elf* when he was two or three years old, but he started crying when I floated away on the iceberg. So I said, "You keep watching it. Quit crying! This is about Christmas, this is about joy. So shut up!" But no, it's a weird thing. If it comes up naturally and they want to see something, but I never want it to be like, "Take a look at this. Recognise that guy? Pretty good stuff, right? Let's replay that again."

Why don't you do the social media thing?

I was on Twitter for four days. And for me, personally, it felt like a burden. It felt like something I had to keep up. I just knew it would become a burden. I would be like, "I haven't sent out a tweet in like, six months, I feel like I should send one out." Then I'd be like, "Hey everyone. Look at this picture of a sandwich I made." No, that's terrible. Or, "Looks like it's going to be cloudy today."

Don't your kids take your phone and show you what to do?

You haven't seen my phone. It's old. I'm a complete technophobe. They don't want to grab my phone.

What are your favourite quotes from your films?

One of my favourites is, "I want to be on you." I've got a lot of, "Shake and bake," of course, and, "You're my boy, Blue" or "Let's go streaking!" But most often I get, "Please don't touch me!" I say, "That's not a quote from one of my movies," and they're like, "I know. Please don't touch me."

Where does Will Ferrell get his ideas from?

I was at the gym today, and it's not anything that I try to think about, but a sketch popped into my head, of a guy who listens to heavy metal music while he is working out, sings way too loud to heavy metal, thrash music, and then someone asks him for a spot, and he's like (in an effeminate, soft voice), "Yeah, sure. Breathe through your diaphragm." I just thought of this guy who was super-effeminate and talked like that, but when he puts his headphones on, he screams at the top of his lungs, screaming in a heavy metal voice. That's just the way your brain works.

Do you have anything on a bucket list, away from acting?

I still do hope to learn Hebrew one day.

Finally, were you surprised by Meryl Streep's admission that she has a crush on you?

She wants to get wit' me! No 'h'. Get wit' me.

INTERVIEW: STEVE NASH



Casa de Mi Padre (2012): "Let him die. He's missing a hand anyway."

Anchorman (2004): "I'm in a glass case of emotion."

Wedding Crashers (2005): "Mom! The meatloaf! F-K!"

Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me (1999): "Kiss my ass, Powers."

Talladega Nights (2006): "I'm Ricky Bobby, if you don't chew Big Red then f-k you."

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General, Online
interactivity

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It's that time of the year to pass, kick, tackle, punch and also brace ourselves for an off-field drama or two. Enlisting the professional acumen of former AFL & NRL greats, we present the...

AFL & NRL

2015 PREVIEW & PREDICTIONS

AFL



Wayne 'Duck' Carey and Luke 'Darc' Darcy
take a look at and dissect the AFL season ahead

PLAYERS TO WATCH



DUCK

JEREMY CAMERON, *Greater Western Sydney (GWS) Giants:* He had an injured-interrupted season last year, was an All Australian the year before, which was his first year in the league, and he has all the attributes to possibly be the best centre half-forward we've ever seen. He does everything very well – good mark, good kick, good user of the ball, good footy brain.

JESSE HOGAN, *Melbourne Demons:* Another key forward who had a back injury last year but he's had a really good preseason and is a young, very talented footballer.

MARCUS BONTEMPELLI, *Western Bulldogs:*

He had a very good year last year, finished second in the NAB Rising Star Award, and can do anything with the ball. Has that freakish ability to sense a moment within a game.



DARC

NATHAN FYFE, *Fremantle Dockers:* Keep an eye out for this player. I hear he had a bit of a shoulder issue over the summer but I get the feeling if he stays fit he might end up being the best player in the comp. He's just a complete player.

LACHIE WHITFIELD, *GWS Giants:* He's a bit unknown but he's the most talented young player in the game. He still needs to fill-out a bit, but when he does, he will be one to watch. He reminds me of a young Nathan Buckley.

GARY ABLETT JR, *Gold Coast Suns:* Just to watch him come back from shoulder surgery and dominate again. I'm told he's trained the house down recently, he's an absolute freak, and it'll be great to see him back on the field fit and strong.



BIGGEST UMPIRE CONTROVERSY



DUCK

The one that they come under fire for the most is the holding of the ball decision and the prior opportunity. Most supporters get frustrated by this one, especially when we're watching a player who has prior opportunity, the ball gets knocked out of his hands in a tackle and the umpire calls play-on and then there's other times when a player simply doesn't have any time and gets caught with the ball and is called for holding the ball. It's a contentious one, it's very grey and it's the one that frustrates everyone in the grandstand and watching at home on TV and for some reason I believe it will continue.



DARC

The umpires always get the raw end of the stick because we change the rules too much and it makes their job almost impossible. The interpretation changes too regularly and it makes it too hard for them. I get the feeling it will happen again this year but hopefully not as much.

BIGGEST OFF-FIELD DRAMA



DUCK

Hopefully none. Let's hope the Essendon saga is cleaned up and we have a year that is all kept on the field. Hopefully the only dramas we have are good dramas like record high-scoring games.



DARC

Don't be surprised by anything. When you've got 700-plus professional players who are young men getting paid very well to take risks on the footy field you know that someone is going to do something fairly stupid at some stage. I really hope not but I'm expecting something to happen. It's just the law of averages saying someone will make a mistake off the field at some point.

WOODEN SPOON CHAMPS



DUCK

ST KILDA SAINTS: They are certainly in a rebuilding phase, they've lost Lenny Hayes to retirement and they've got a lot of inexperience in their side. Nick Riewoldt would have to have another big year for them not to end up last.



DARC

MELBOURNE DEMONS: Unfortunately they are still a fair way away from the end of their troubles. Things will certainly take a bit longer to turn all this around and they'll no doubt struggle again this season.



BROWNLOW MEDAL CONTENDERS



DUCK

JAEGER O'MEARA, Gold Coast: He's just a gun player. He's a proven vote getter who had a few injuries last year but he's flying on the track and good to go this year.
DANE SWAN, Collingwood: He's a proven vote getter who had a few injuries last year but he's flying on the track and good to go this year.
JOEL SELWOOD, Geelong: Super captain, fantastic leader, polled well in 2014, and may go a step further.



DARC

NATHAN FYFE, Fremantle: If he stays fit I can't see him losing it.



Luke Darcy co-hosts Melbourne's *Hot Breakfast* with Eddie McGuire and Mick Molloy weekdays from 6am on 105.1 Triple M



Wayne Carey is a Special Commentator on Triple M Football (AFL) and co-hosts Triple M Melbourne's (105.1) *Dead Set Legends* Saturday mornings

THE TOP 8



DUCK

In no particular order because it's too early to call it. There'll be two changes from last year – I don't think Essendon or Richmond will make the Top Eight, so the two sides who come in are Adelaide and the Gold Coast.

Sydney
Hawthorn
Fremantle
Geelong
North Melbourne
Port Adelaide
Adelaide
Gold Coast



DARC

Hawthorn
Sydney
Port Adelaide
Fremantle
Geelong
North Melbourne
Gold Coast
Richmond

MOST IMPROVED TEAM



DUCK

GOLD COAST SUNS: They'll play finals for the first time. The fact that they've got a great new coach in Rodney Eade, who has a very good record when he first takes over a club, will play a big part. He did it with Sydney in the '90s and he did it with the Bulldogs, too. They have a tremendous amount of talent – David Swallow, Gary Ablett Jr, Jaeger O'Meara, young Jack Martin, who will also be a player to watch this year, plus Harley Bennell and Dion Prestia – all who will run through the middle of the ground. There's not a side in the competition with that sort of talent and Rodney will be able to harness this and make them the big improver in 2015.



DARC

GWS GIANTS: They've got some really good senior players. They've recruited Ryan Griffen and Joel Patfull, and the year before they got Shane Mumford and Heath Shaw, so with this talented young group they've now got a good mix of older players and they'll really improve this season.

BIGGEST CHANGE



DUCK

If you see what Hawthorn were able to do last year, and that is to win a Premiership by scoring quickly, then the only way to beat them is to actually score against them. If you try to defend against them you won't win – you have to kick over 100 points to beat Hawthorn, they are the yardstick. So therefore we'll see more attacking football which will be great to watch.



DARC

Technically, Port Adelaide started to change the way a lot of teams wanted to play and that's running really aggressively, trying to score quickly and playing fast, attacking football. There was a really big focus on defending for a while in the AFL but a lot of teams now focus on their attack. We saw Hawthorn win it last year because they attacked better than any other team in the competition and Port Adelaide are now almost taking that to another level. So I think we'll see a lot of sides trying to take the game on.

THE GRAND FINAL



DUCK

SYDNEY VS PORT ADELAIDE: The fire will still be burning in the belly of Sydney being beaten in the Grand Final last year. Failure stays with you a lot longer than success and that will drive Sydney, who have an abundance of talent, into another Grand Final. Port Adelaide will be there because by rights they should've beaten Hawthorn in the Preliminary Final last year. They were unbelievable, they had a great season last year, they've picked up a lot of talent, and with their youngsters having another year under their belts this is a side who is going places. They'll take that one step further than they did in 2014 by getting to the GF. They've been a remarkable story and there's a few chapters yet to be written.

SYDNEY SWANS



DARC

HAWTHORN VS SYDNEY: I still think these are the best two teams in the comp and Hawthorn are a massive chance to win three Grand Finals in a row. Sydney are going to win a heap of games and they're going to be really hard to beat. Port Adelaide are dangerous and are capable of beating both these teams, but I believe we'll have the same Grand Final as last year.



SYDNEY SWANS





PLAYERS TO WATCH

SHAUN JOHNSON, *New Zealand Warriors*: The mercurial playmaker was voted best international player last year picking up the prestigious Golden Boot award. His uncanny knack of making something productive appear out of nothing, coupled with his blistering speed and step make him a definite player to watch this season.

MATT MOYLAN, *Penrith Panthers*: In two short seasons the Panthers fullback appears ready to take over where Jarryd Hayne left off by becoming NSW's fullback come this year's Origin Series. In the recent All Stars game he was a stand out in a beaten team and his slight, off-hand and non-stop involvement not only make him a player to watch but his team will benefit profoundly.

JASON TAUMALOLO, *North Queensland Cowboys*: The North Queensland Cowboys celebrate 20 years in the NRL this season, and what better way to mark the accolade then to win a competition. But to do so their 'incredible hulk' backrower, Jason Taumalolo, must feature prominently. The young dynamo has the footballing world at his feet, already fielding offers from French Rugby. Let's hope he stays put in the code he has wrecked carnage in and isn't tempted by the 15-man-a-side code.



DALLY M PLAYER OF THE YEAR

GREG INGLIS: Souths coach Michael McGuire made perhaps the play of this past off-season in giving the man known as GI the captaincy. And on watching the several times he's played this year, the '(c)' next to his name most definitely appeals to the freakishly brilliant Queenslander.

MOST IMPROVED TEAM

CRONULLA-SUTHERLAND SHARKS:

Well, really, who else could it be? What a diabolical 18 months they've had as a club. With the ASADA investigation firmly aiming their sights on the boys from the Shire, for them to merely field a competitive team of 13 players will be an accomplishment. I believe they will do this, and then some! With players like Ben Barba, Jack Bird, Michael Ennis, Jayson Bukuya and Saulala Houma now calling Cronulla home, coach Flannagan is back from his forced hiatus, and they have players that are world quality in Micky Gordon, Wade Graham, Andrew Fifita, Luke Lewis, and captain courageous Paul Gallen, the 2015 version of the Sharks has all the man power to beat any team in the competition. A Top Eight, possibly Top Four, will enforce this notion.

THE GRAND FINAL

BULLDOGS V PENRITH: The Bulldogs now have a double pronged twin attack in the Morris brothers – a scary assignment for any team trying to defend them. They also have the current NSW halves and a forward pack to die for. Their coach Des Hasler is also another vital cog to their success. But unfortunately, like last year they will be defeated in the last game of the year by the mighty Panthers. Being an ex-Panther player am I biased? Bloody oath I am! But last season just as they were looking like being a real premiership threat major injury struck. And it struck marquee players. This year they surely can't be as unlucky with the 'injury stick'? Anyway, if you don't agree with me that Penrith will win the comp, check out the Chinese horoscope. Once you do, see when the year of the Goat appeared. See, told ya! Catch you at the game.

WOODEN SPOON CHAMPS

GOLD COAST TITANS:

I see them having a Cronulla-2104-type season, and it sure hasn't started the way they'd have envisaged.

THE TOP 8

South Sydney Rabbitohs
Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs
North Queensland Cowboys
Penrith Panthers
Sydney Roosters
Cronulla-Sutherland Sharks
Manly-Warringah Eagles
New Zealand Warriors

BIGGEST CHANGE

Hopefully less use of the video referee. It's painstaking, it's a lottery, and it isn't 100% fool proof. The quicker rugby league gets back to one referee the better, too.



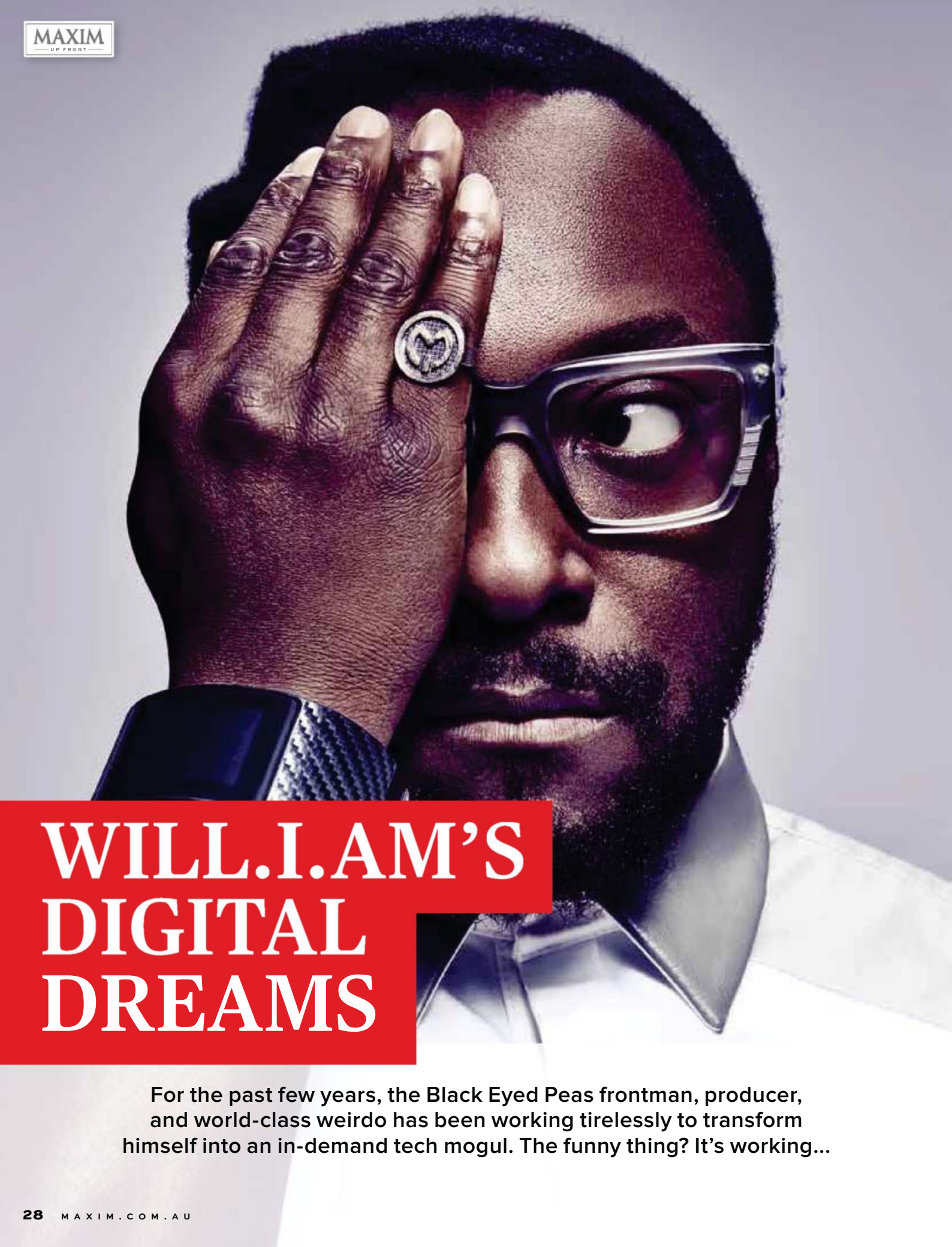
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WILL.I.AM'S DIGITAL DREAMS

For the past few years, the Black Eyed Peas frontman, producer, and world-class weirdo has been working tirelessly to transform himself into an in-demand tech mogul. The funny thing? It's working...



SAY WHAT YOU WILL ABOUT WILL.I.AM, but the man can keep his cool. It's 95 degrees in Washington, D.C., a thick, tangible heat that entombs you as you walk. Yet he's wearing a black suit, a black shirt, and the kind of heat-retardant stoicism all great performers share, as he stands in front of the White House and waits to be interviewed by Martha MacCallum of Fox News. She's asking will about the capital's Maker Faire — the latest in a series of gatherings, started in 2006, where amateur scientists, artists, and other ambitious do-it-yourselfers display visionary projects they've designed and made, often using 3-D printers. Maker Faire festivals crop up all over the world, but this is the first one to be held at the White House, and it's hosted by President Obama, who calls it "a revolution that can help us create new jobs and industries for decades to come." And will.i.am is there to make an announcement.

No, it doesn't have anything to do with the Black Eyed Peas, the hip-hop group he leads, which, having sold more than 31 million albums worldwide, is now on hiatus. Rather, it's all about will's next act. The seven-time Grammy winner has decided to hang up his sci-fi attire and taffy-legged dance moves and stage dive into the tech world. And he's not just another celebrity show pony being paraded around to polish a company's cool: He's investing his own money and time into developing forward-thinking devices for his own company, i.am+, and others, as well. "I'm all in," he says. "I'm betting on the future."

Skepticism might seem like the proper response to this claim. After all, the tech world has a decidedly spotty record when it comes to celebrity involvement. Remember when BlackBerry's global creative director, Alicia Keys, dragged that

flagging icon back into relevance? Or when Myspace's new co-owner, Justin Timberlake, led the company's triumphant return to mainstream dominance? Exactly. Fame doesn't automatically translate into innovation or insight. But will is far more ambitious in his corporate dalliances: He's director of creative innovation at Intel, chief creative officer at the manufacturing firm 3D Systems, a collaborator on Coca-Cola's recycling initiative, and a partner with FIRST, the nonprofit organization founded by Segway inventor and tech luminary Dean Kamen to stage robotics competitions for kids. But will.i.am isn't some tech-world dilettante. "He's really doing it right," says Kamen. "The public thinks he's just another entertainer saying how much he cares. But he walks the walk. I truly believe he'll change the world."

SO MAKE NO MISTAKE: THE

WILL.I.AM braving D.C.'s summer heat is no publicity-seeking drone, swanning from conference room to conference call. He's here pushing the Ekocycle Cube 3D printer, an idea he cooked up with Kamen and 3D Systems designers.

But Fox News has misspelled the thing — "Eco—" instead of "Eko—" — and Coca-Cola's marketing team is firing off urgent e-mails to please, please fix the typo. The name was will's idea, a play on the words recycle and Coke, with the latter reversed. The Ekocycle Cube 3D is a consumer 3-D printer, a desktop-size unit that can spit out six-inch versions of nearly any design fed into it. Compared with similar printers, it's cheap (\$1,199) and simple enough to attract mainstream users with no prior experience. And it uses recycled polyethylene terephthalate (rPET), which means each custom-made accessory it

makes is composed partly of recycled bottles. "We have an opportunity to reconfigure the way the current world is structured," will says. Coming from him, it doesn't sound quite as pompous as it might from, say, Bono.

The interview is winding down. Fox News neglects to fix the typo, but will never breaks a sweat or strays from his main point: Consumer tech can transform America by creating new industries and more jobs. Noble as that sounds, it's what will believes. And

"That should be everyone's focus right now," he says. "We are soon going to face the day when our devices are more intelligent than us."

He's getting all Judgment Day because, in addition to his 3-D printing ventures and consulting, he's created a device of his own: a smartwatch. It's called the i.amPuls, and unlike many of the other wrist-based devices now flooding the market — most notably, one from a little tech firm out of Cupertino — this cuff can make and

“Will is really doing it right,’ Says tech luminary Dean Kamen, with whom will works on ekocycle and the robotics organization FIRST. ‘I truly believe he’ll Change the world.’”

it's what he's convincing some of the wealthiest companies in the world to believe, too.

The standard-issue tech-mogul creation myths, with wunderkinds vaulting from Ivy League schools to Silicon Valley prominence, don't apply to the former William Adams. He was born in the Boyle Heights neighborhood of East Los Angeles; his family was on welfare, and he took a bus across town to attend a magnet school in Pacific Palisades. He lived in the projects until, at 17, he was signed to rapper Eazy-E's record label. The Black Eyed Peas came later, as did producer credits with everyone from Michael Jackson to U2, and Miley Cyrus to Talib Kweli.

But when you think about it, the Peas were always future forward, fusing dance beats with pop hooks long before the EDM explosion. The group's first two albums, full of earnest, socially conscious raps, didn't sell well, so will revamped the sound and lineup, adding charismatic lead singer Fergie and creating Peas 2.0, a deliriously happy Top 40 group and global phenom. When you talk to will for a few minutes, you realize he's a huge nerd. Always has been. Proof: He's terrified of artificial intelligence. Specifically, he's frightened that our ability to educate people is being outpaced by machine intelligence.

take calls itself, rather than simply pass along messages and information from a synced-up smartphone. In fact, it doesn't require the user to have a smartphone on hand at all.

"Everyone else is looking at the smartwatch as something that sends you notifications," he says. "They're not thinking as big as we are."

It's worth noting that will is talking to me from Australia on a prototype of the Puls. This is a few weeks after the White House event and some months before the watch's November launch, and the sound is sharp. Even sharper: All the processing happens within the Puls, which runs apps like Facebook and Twitter. It has a 1.7-inch touchscreen with a bright, easy-to-read font, responds to voice commands, and operates on its own 3G network. It even features a Siri-like digital assistant that answers questions and helps streamline searches. And it's built entirely by will's in-house tech team. The same is true for the watch's operating system, a new platform that's a house-enhanced version of open source Android, complete with its own interface and developers' kit. It pits him against the tech powerhouses. And that could be a big deal.

It's more evidence that will.i.am is not simply dabbling. He invested





his own money into this venture, just as he poured cash into the i.am+ line of high-end iPhone accessories in 2012. Those weren't a success by any stretch of the imagination, but they provided street cred—he'd made the effort, built a team of engineers, and gambled some of his wealth.

Still, he bristles when asked why consumers should trust him. "A celebrity would partner with the company, take an advance, and provide a few ideas. And their ideas are all like" — his voice shifts to a whine — "'Yeah, that's cool. Yeah, I would rock that to the club.' For me to be taken seriously, I had to earn it."

He earned his partnership with Coca-Cola, too, presenting the firm with his idea for a product-based recycling initiative in 2012. When April Crow, Coca-Cola's director of sustainable packing, flew to LA for a follow-up, she wasn't expecting to spend hours discussing the challenges of manufacturing with recycled plastic. "He had done his research; he asked the smartest

questions," says Crow. "I was blown away." Will had pursued Coke, rather than the other way around, and he was advocating an initiative with profits that would go to sustainability-based charities. "That was what struck me," says Crow. "He isn't just about promoting himself. He really wants to be a part of this."

If you believe will, it's not about the immediate payoff. Between his music career and his early investment in Beats Audio — acquired by Apple in May of last year for \$3 billion — he won't run out of cash anytime soon. All these long plays are part of a circuitous, counterintuitive loop, landing back where he started: the inner city. He partnered with FIRST and wants to make 3-D printers mainstream because he believes science, tech, and math offer the surest routes to prosperity for kids from poor backgrounds. "It's not just music, and it's not just sports," he says, noting that agents and talent scouts regularly visit ghettos to search for the next star singers or jocks. "How come they take kids seriously and tech waits?"

That's a question Dean Kamen posed a few years back, and shortly after, he received a call from will. "I thought, Here's another entertainer mad at me for saying kids need more realistic outlets," Kamen explains. But will agreed with that sentiment and quickly surprised Kamen (a man not easily won over by star power) with his enthusiasm, intelligence, and generosity. Will volunteered his services, performed at FIRST events, used his celebrity to increase the charity's presence, and pitched countless ideas.

Will also started a FIRST robotics team at his old school in Boyle Heights. And he wants kids to use the Puls so they'll see how transformative tech can be. "That's why I'm so excited about this," he says. "It's a gateway, and I can't wait until kids start learning to code on it."

But is it optimism or pure hype? Can you really picture housing projects full of kids tapping away at their watches, writing apps, waiting for the first download and the first positive review, and whatever comes next, expanding the tech industry with new waves of innovation? Well, will.i.am can. Which is why it might happen. ■

WILL'S WONDERS

IN THE FRENZIED RACE TO CREATE AND MARKET THE WORLD'S NEXT GREAT GADGET, WILL.I.AM HAS SEVERAL HORSES ON THE FAST TRACK.



EKOCYCLE 3D PRINTER

Will collaborated with Dean Kamen and Coca-Cola to create the Ekocycle Cube 3D printer. The desktop consumer model not only allows users to create high-resolution objects but also prints with partially recycled materials. Every cartridge the printer uses is the equivalent of three recycled soda bottles.

\$1,199; CUBIFY.COM



I.AMPULS SMARTBAND

Unlike many similar smartwatches, the Puls operates on its own built-in 3G connection without the help of a smartphone. The open-source touchscreen smartwatch, in addition to letting you take calls and surf the Web, receives e-mails, news, and other notifications, and features its own Siri-like digital assistant.

FROM \$399 PLUS SERVICE CONTRACT; IAMPLUS.COM



THE REST...

Will is constantly working on the next big thing. At his Los Angeles shop, he has prototypes of, and hopes to soon release, a triangular backpack that doubles as a wearable boom box, as well as a battery-powered jacket that charges the Puls for four days when it touches the sleeve's cuff. They're expected to be released in the near future.

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BILLION-AIRE JORDAN

Number 23 is the only pro athlete to achieve a net worth followed by nine zeros. Here's a look at some of MJ's other notable numbers...



NUMBER OF GAMES IN WHICH JORDAN DID NOT SCORE IN DOUBLE DIGITS, OF 1,251 GAMES HE PLAYED.



FIFTY-PLUS-POINT GAMES IN AIR JORDAN'S CAREER.

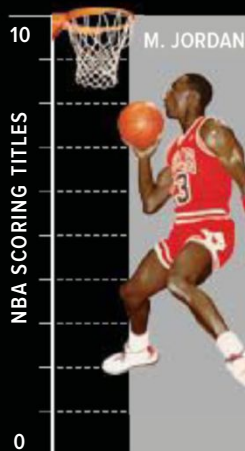
39

POINTS SCORED IN A PLAYOFF GAME DURING THE BULLS' 1986 SERIES AGAINST THE BOSTON CELTICS. (THE RECORD IS STILL UNBROKEN.)

63

NUMBER OF SCORING TITLES WON BY JORDAN: KOBE BRYANT, DWYANE WADE, LEBRON JAMES, CARMELO ANTHONY, AND KEVIN DURANT COMBINED HAVE WON ONLY NINE.

9



HOLES THE GOLFING NUT SUPPOSEDLY AVERAGES IN ONE DAY.



\$1 BILLION
NET WORTH AS CALCULATED BY FORBES.

\$90 MILLION
ESTIMATED AMOUNT M. J. MADE IN 2013—A DECADE AFTER HIS (FINAL) RETIREMENT. (ONLY FLOYD MAYWEATHER JR. MADE MORE, WITH \$105 MILLION.)

SONGS THAT REFERENCED JORDAN LAST YEAR.

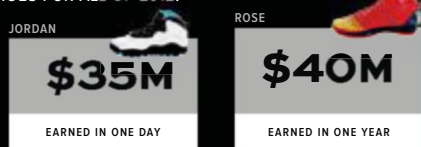
41



FINE FOR WEARING AIR JORDANS DURING HIS ROOKIE YEAR. THE SHOES VIOLATED LEAGUE PROTOCOL BECAUSE THE RED-AND-BLACK DESIGN DIDN'T FEATURE MUCH WHITE.

\$5K
PER GAME

FIRST-DAY SALES FOR 2014'S AIR JORDAN 10 "POWDER BLUE" RETRO SNEAKERS. PERSPECTIVE ALERT: ADIDAS MADE \$40 MILLION FROM DERRICK ROSE'S SIGNATURE SHOES FOR ALL OF 2012.



NUMBER OF ALL-DEFENSIVE FIRST TEAMS JORDAN APPEARED ON. (LEBRON HAS FIVE SO FAR.)

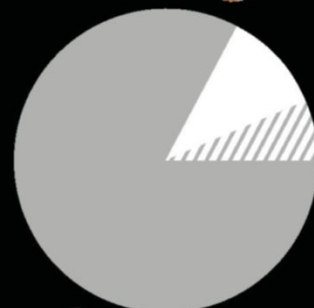


NUMBER MJ WORE FOR ONE GAME IN 1990, WHEN SOMEONE STOLE HIS UNIFORM.

12



JORDAN'S RETAIL SALES LAST YEAR, COMPARED WITH LEBRON JAMES' AND KEVIN DURANT'S.



CURRENT ATHLETES ON THE JORDAN BRAND-ENDORSEMENT ROSTER, INCLUDING THE NBA'S CARMELO ANTHONY, MLB'S CC SABATHIA, AND THE NFL'S DEZ BRYANT.

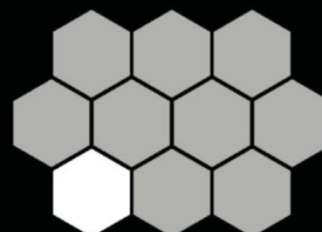
42



AMOUNT JORDAN'S HIGHLAND PARK, ILLINOIS, MANSION WENT ON THE MARKET FOR IN 2012.

\$29M

PERCENTAGE OF THE CHARLOTTE HORNETS MJ OWNS — CURRENTLY HIS LARGEST ASSET.



89.5%

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per 150g pack*



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A source of dietary fibre. No GMO used.
A source of Omega-3 ALA.



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piranhacorp.com.au win great prizes

* Based on an average adult daily diet of 8,700kj

SOUR AND GLORY

From its humble Brooklyn beginnings, the Pickleback – that is, rough whiskey chased with salty pickle juice – has become a bona fide global phenomenon

Thanks to its palatability and simplicity – a jar of pickles, a jigger of whiskey, and you're in business – the Pickleback has graduated from novelty to ubiquity, a secret handshake for off-duty bartenders and clued-in drinkers alike. Since its 2006 birth at Brooklyn dive Bushwick Country Club (Old Crow + McClure's pickle brine = awesome), it's become a boozy-savory sensation. Today, you'll find Picklebacks everywhere from Chicago's elevated Au Cheval to London's down-home Pitt Cue Co. "It's for every occasion," explains BCC's John Roberts. "There's just no bad time to have one."

REACH FOR ROTGUT

Picklebacks are perfect with most any whiskey, but since the assertive brine will obliterate nuances, skip pricey spirits and bend your knees for the bottom shelf. Old Crow, Benchmark, Old Grand-Dad, and Evan Williams Black Label are all excellent options. Note: Some bartenders are getting uppity by using Bulleit, Jack Daniel's, and, most commonly, Jameson.

THE FIFTH TASTE

On your taste buds, the tango of booze and brine creates a pleasing flavor of umami – our super-savory fifth taste. It's also found in Parmesan cheese, cured meats, and soy sauce.

TOAST TO YOUR HEALTH

Next time a buzzkill questions why you downed six picklebacks, tell him it's doctor's orders: A recent study found that pickle juice can alleviate leg cramps. Fun fact: During a football game in 2013, Boise State running back Jay Ajayi was filmed slurping brine from a pickle-filled jar. To avoid Internet infamy, he should've sipped Pickle Juice Sport – which, sadly, is a real thing.

GET JUICED

When shopping for brine, "you don't want liquid that looks like it's radioactive," says BCC's Roberts, who recommends a "good-quality brine that's garlicky and, preferably, spicy." His pick: McClure's

spicy pickles, the hallowed juice used in the original Pickleback.

POLE POSITION

Hung over? Perhaps the problem is too much whiskey, not enough brine. In Poland, pickle juice is a classic morning-after cure. It may not just be folklore: Vinegar's acetic acid helps ravaged bodies retain fluid and, like a sponge, absorb the brine's beneficial electrolytes and salt.

PICKLE POWER

Have some leftover brine from your last Pickleback bender? The salty ambrosia's acidity makes it ideal for cleaning copper pans, tenderizing steaks, and even killing weeds. Seriously!



HOW TO:

Create Your Own Beer Brand

Leimin Duong
from Zeven Lemon
Beerworks tells us
how she successfully
launched her own
beer brand



NAME: LEIMIN 'LEMON' DUONG
TITLE: FOUNDER/BREWER/
CHIEF BEER TASTER
COMPANY: ZEVEN LEMON
BEERWORKS

STEP 1: THE CONCEPT

I had recently turned 25 and was dispirited with corporate life when I decided to start Zeven Lemon. Food has been a life-long passion of mine and beer is my drink of choice. When I read about the idea of a strawberry beer I was mind blown at the concept and surprised no-one in Australia was making it. I like to share the things I love with the people I love, so I decided to make a beer my non-beer loving friends can enjoy while keeping the beer enthusiast in me happy.

STEP 2: THE BRAND

Coming up with a name that's representative of what you want your beer company to stand for is key.

When I was younger, I thought of the name 'Seven Lemon' and reserved it at the back of my mind for future business endeavours. It almost rhymes, seven is an odd number and is the number of members in my family, and Lemon is my moniker. Naming the brand after yourself gives you some flexibility in determining how and where you operate. Make the brand legitimate by registering your company, obtaining a liquor licence, trademarking the name, drawing up a logo and staking a hold on the domain. The domain name was taken so I tweaked our spelling to 'Zeven Lemon'.

STEP 3: THE BEER!

You can set up a brewery at this step but that's a whole other exercise in HOW TO BUILD A BREWERY and with contract brewing services available (Google them), is only necessary if the brewery underpins your initial beer idea. Don't have a clue how to make beer? Get a clue. Can't find a recipe? Make it up. In the beginning, I had a vague idea of how beer is made so I read a book or 10, Googled a lot and asked questions to anyone who was willing and able to help. It also helps to have some knowledge of basic algebra and chemistry

when it comes to running the numbers for the recipe. Working to a demanding schedule, I bypassed the home brewing phase (it takes too long to set up) and threw a small investment into testing our Strawberry Blonde recipe at commercial breweries. There was some wastage and I still mourn their waste.

STEP 4: THE SELL

If you're like me, not a very good salesperson, go back to STEP 1, 2 and 3 with the intention to create a beer that is capable of carrying some of the selling weight itself. Set up your webpage and do whatever it takes and whatever you can afford to get your beer in front of buyers. As our beer has a unique, subtle fruit taste that tends to challenge some existing ideas of fruit beers, we've decided to go straight to the end consumer with samples to bring the buyers to the bar.

STEP 5: THE PROFIT!

As we've just started out, we're not at this stage yet but it's very satisfying to create something people are genuinely enlightened by while giving me a great reason to travel for work and drink beer in the name of research. Any profit would be an added bonus!

THE STRAWBERRY BLONDE
Light, crisp and refreshing flavoured beer brewed from malted barley, wheat and hops with subtle fruit flavour from a touch of real strawberry juice. It is mildly tart to start and low in bitterness with a bit of fruity sweetness to finish. The 330mL, 4.0% Alc/Vol (1.0 standard drink) bottle does not contain artificial flavours or preservatives.
For more info go to:
www.zevenlemon.com.au



Machines

LAMBORGHINI ASTERION

➔ You could say the guys at Lamborghini have a raging boner for their raging bull symbol, seeing as though they name their models after all things bullfighting. The Asterion continues the tradition, with its name referring to the mythological Minotaur part man, part bull (fitting since this is the brand's first hybrid).

Look under the bonnet and you will find... nothing. Being a Lambo it has a mid-engine, in this case a V10 borrowed from the Huracan which produces 449kW. Attached to that is an electric motor (not a typo) that doubles as starter motor and generator. It feeds two electric motors at the front, adding 220kW or a Subaru WRX STI worth of power. So for those counting, the engine and all three motors operate together for a total of 669kW - more than any other Lamborghini.

It also has an electric-only mode where just the front wheels are driven and as an EV, can achieve 125km/h and a 50km range. Ferrari, Porsche, and McLaren already have hybrid hypercars on sale

overseas. Since La Ferrari can't cruise on straight up electrics, the Asterion is more like the Porsche 918 and McLaren P1 – only with a better electric-only range, and cooler name.



THE EDAG LIGHT COCOON CONCEPT

➔ 3D printing has been #trending with automakers lately, and German engineering firm EDAG first revealed their attempt at the new car art with their skeletal structured Genesis concept at last year's Geneva Motor Show. For 2015, they

will again be attempting to illuminate the future of car construction – this time literally.

EDAG's current concept – the Light Cocoon - features a backlit weatherproof fabric skin stretched over a 3D-printed leaf-inspired frame; part Tron, part Avatar. The material is supplied by German clothing outfit Jack Wolfskin (yes, you read correctly) and is not only paper thin – it's four times lighter than photocopy paper, and ten times smoother than the Queen's toilet paper.

With minimal weight, speedy performance is a given, no matter the drivetrain – although an electric motor/battery would be ideal (less moving parts). Comforts like climate control will be MIA, but won't be missed on such a sports car.

This isn't the world's first fabric sports car though – that distinction goes to the 2008 BMW GINA Light Visionary concept, which had polyurethane-spandex over an aluminum wire frame.





SPEC CHECK	
ENGINE	5.2 LITRE NATURALLY ASPIRATED V10
TRANSMISSION	7 SPEED DUAL-CLUTCH
POWER	669KW
TOP SPEED	320KM/H
0-100KM/H	3.0 SECONDS
FUEL CONSUMPTION	4.1L/100KM
	ESTIMATED AT \$1,000,000



THE AEROMOBIL CONCEPT

→ Even though you could list the people who have piloted a flying car on a toothpick, Austrian engineer Stefan Klein and the Slovakian Aeromobil team managed to find a guinea pig to test fly/drive their latest concept – and do it successfully.

While many think its design looks like a junior jumbo forced itself the streets, we

think it actually pulls off a cool *Transformer*-ish look – and unlike the Terrafugia flying-car which has napkin-like collapsing wings; the Aeromobil wings fold in, kinda like a firefly.

While the 75kW Rotax water-cooled engine is something special, the machine itself uses standard parking spaces and standard fuel; topping out at 160km/h in vehicle mode, and 60km/h as plane – for a total

range of 700km.

Inside the cabin/cockpit there are two steering wheels; the large steering wheel is for the road and the smaller for the air. however before you even think about launching out of traffic, remember all take-offs and landings

will need permission slips from the airport. Klein hopes to mass market his 'flycar-stein' once the certification red tape comes unstuck in a few years. Until then, you can build a ramp and try *Jackass*-style flying instead.



2015 ISUZU D-MAX X-RUNNER

→ "The X-Runner will appeal to those who want something a little bit different," says Dave Harding, Isuzu UTE Australia's Assistant General Manager of Marketing & PR.

To create that difference, Isuzu brought special styling and street cred to their one-tonne D-MAX workhorse range; the result being the limited edition 2015 D-MAX X-Runner.

With only 360 units available, its appeal is sure to go viral. Using the D-MAX 4x4 LS-Terrain as influence, the X-Runner features a unique dark grey trim, auto climate control, rear park

assist, and a cool automatic Passive Entry & Start System (PESS). This allows for a hands free entry/exit – a bonus for gadget geeks and germaphobes alike.

Distinguishing the outside are alloys, side steps, and a tub liner to secure your weekend work, fishing, or camping gear; finished in either pearlescent white or lapis blue – both metallic, both with distinguishing stripes and decals.

With Common Rail Direct Injection, a turbocharger, and 3500kg braked towing capacity,

the engine provides both optimum power and fuel-efficiency (8.1L/100km).

What's more, compared to its competitors, this magnificent machine is affordable – you can get an X-Runner and that dream dirt bike for the price of a Ford Ranger Wildtrak.

And given the X-Runner's success in the one-tonner market, we will likely see more variants in the future.

THE
MAXIM
STAMP OF
APPROVAL!
CAR
OF THE
MONTH



SPEC CHECK

ENGINE
3.0 LITRE TURBO DIESEL
FOUR CYLINDER

TRANSMISSION
5 SPEED
AUTOMATIC

POWER
130KW; 380NM OF
TORQUE @ 1800RPM

FUEL CONSUMPTION
8.1 LITRES/100KM



\$51,990





2015 HONDA CIVIC TYPE R

→ This Civic model is a reworked version of the 'blueprint' that debuted at the last Geneva motor show. Styled at Honda's R&D centre in the UK, the finished aero 'dynamic' package is the result of extensive wind-tunnel work, and dizzying laps on Honda's own Tochigi test track. The styling is not all about the looks either; the spoilers add downforce, the side wings reduce drag, and the front grilles optimise cooling. With a little extra tuning the Type R will be ready for the famous Nurburgring track, on which they claim

it will lap faster than any front-wheel drive car in history. No pressure then?

The turbocharged four-cylinder will redline at 7000rpm, and will come in your choice of transmission, as long as it's a 6 speed manual, because Honda insist on "maximizing driving enjoyment". To get the absolute maximum, you have Honda's new '+R' performance mode button

at your fingertips. When pressed, it alters the torque, makes the steering more responsive, and as Honda Civic Type R large project leader Suehiro Hasshi describes - makes the whole experience "immense and extreme".

Honda Australia says the Civic Type R is "high on our wish list" but still won't confirm or deny.

SPEC CHECK	
ENGINE	2.0 LITRE FOUR-CYLINDER
TRANSMISSION	6 SPEED MANUAL
POWER	212KW
0-100KM/H	6.0 SECONDS
ESTIMATED AT	\$50,000



WIN!

Enter **MAXIM's Ride** competition and you could score yourself a copy of the game on PS4 or XBO!

* FOR TOTAL PRIZE POOL VALUE AND FULL TERMS AND CONDITIONS GO TO MAXIM AUSTRALIA'S FACEBOOK PAGE



On March 20, motorbike enthusiasts are in for a real treat with the release of *Ride* on PC, XBO, PS4, X360 and PS3. Developed by genre specialists Milestone s.l.r – who have 16-years of experience making two-wheeled racers – it lovingly details 114 real-world motorbikes, allows you to customise them with authentic parts and then take them out onto some of the world's best tracks either online, or in the many offline modes. To celebrate its launch, Five Star Games is offering 20 copies of the game (10 on PS4, 10 on XBO).

TO ENTER AND FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN

GO TO THE MAXIM AUSTRALIA FACEBOOK PAGE RIGHT NOW!

GET RACING!

SPEC CHECK	
ENGINE	655CC LIQUID-COOLED, IN-LINE TWIN TWO CYLINDER
TRANSMISSION	6 SPEED CHAIN
POWER	38.8KW
WET WEIGHT	179KG
SEAT HEIGHT	805MM
FUEL CAPACITY	14 LITRES
FUEL CONSUMPTION	4.5 LITRES/100KM
\$ \$8,999	

2015 YAMAHA MT-07

The learner legal market in Australia is so huge, 40,000 learner units are sold per year – with no Kickstarter projects in sight. While Yamaha has dipped its toe in the learner pool before, it never believed it had a crushing market leader – until now.

The 2015 model available here this month is essentially a powered-down version of the European MT-07, with Yamaha engineers starting with a full-powered model and scaling it back until it became learner legal. It's similar to the Triumph learner-legal Street Triple 660, but with the best power-to-weight ratio and torque in its class.



If you thought the MT stood for 'middle trouser' you'd be hilarious – but wrong. The 'MT' stands for 'Monster Torque' and proves it with a competitor-crushing 57.5Nm at 4000rpm. It skins the Street Triple 660 (\$12,490) at 54.6Nm and outsizes the Honda CBR500F (\$7290) at 43Nm.

While it's not the kind of machine to dislocate your shoulder on

throttle, its torque stats and 179kg weight give it a clear advantage over many.

Due to heavy restriction laws, many learner-legal motorcycle experiences feel like being on a treasure hunt with a safety pin. But Yamaha has somehow managed to create a machine with enough impact to bend the learning curve in the right direction.

2015 DUCATI MULTISTRADA 1200S

Since 2010, the Multistrada 1200s have always been the most revolutionary of Ducati's sports-touring models. Cut to today, and Ducati claim their 2015 Multistrada (meaning: all roads) will be all things to all people, four bikes in one, and their most advanced bike ever... now that's a five-year plan.

The walk behind the talk is what's wedged in the frame – Ducati's second generation Testastretta DS engine – which slurps through a new fuel variable valve timing injection system – a first for the motorcycle industry.

Now, in performance mode – you can achieve

wheelie in the first three gears and get to licence-losing speeds rapidly; and thanks to the 'Inertial Measurement Unit (IMU)', ABS can achieve steady braking where wheel lock would otherwise cause skidding mischief.

The bike's brain is pretty much your onboard personal technician – so you can lose that



suspension specialists number asap, and enhance the overall riding experience through an iOS/Android app, which lets you analyse data and interact with ducati.com and social networks.

While Aprilia's Caponord 1200 – which also features semi-active suspension – will be available for \$6,000 less, the Multistrada's awesome handling, comfortable riding position, and Brembo monoblock brakes, make it a more appealing fit for those who don't like being head-down, arse-up.

SPEC CHECK	
ENGINE	1198CC LIQUID-COOLED, EIGHT-VALVE L-TWIN
TRANSMISSION	6 SPEED WET CLUTCH, WITH SLIPPER ACTION
POWER	110KW
WEIGHT	234KG
SEAT HEIGHT	850MM
FUEL CAPACITY	20 LITRES
FUEL CONSUMPTION	6.2 LITRES/100KM
\$ \$28,490	



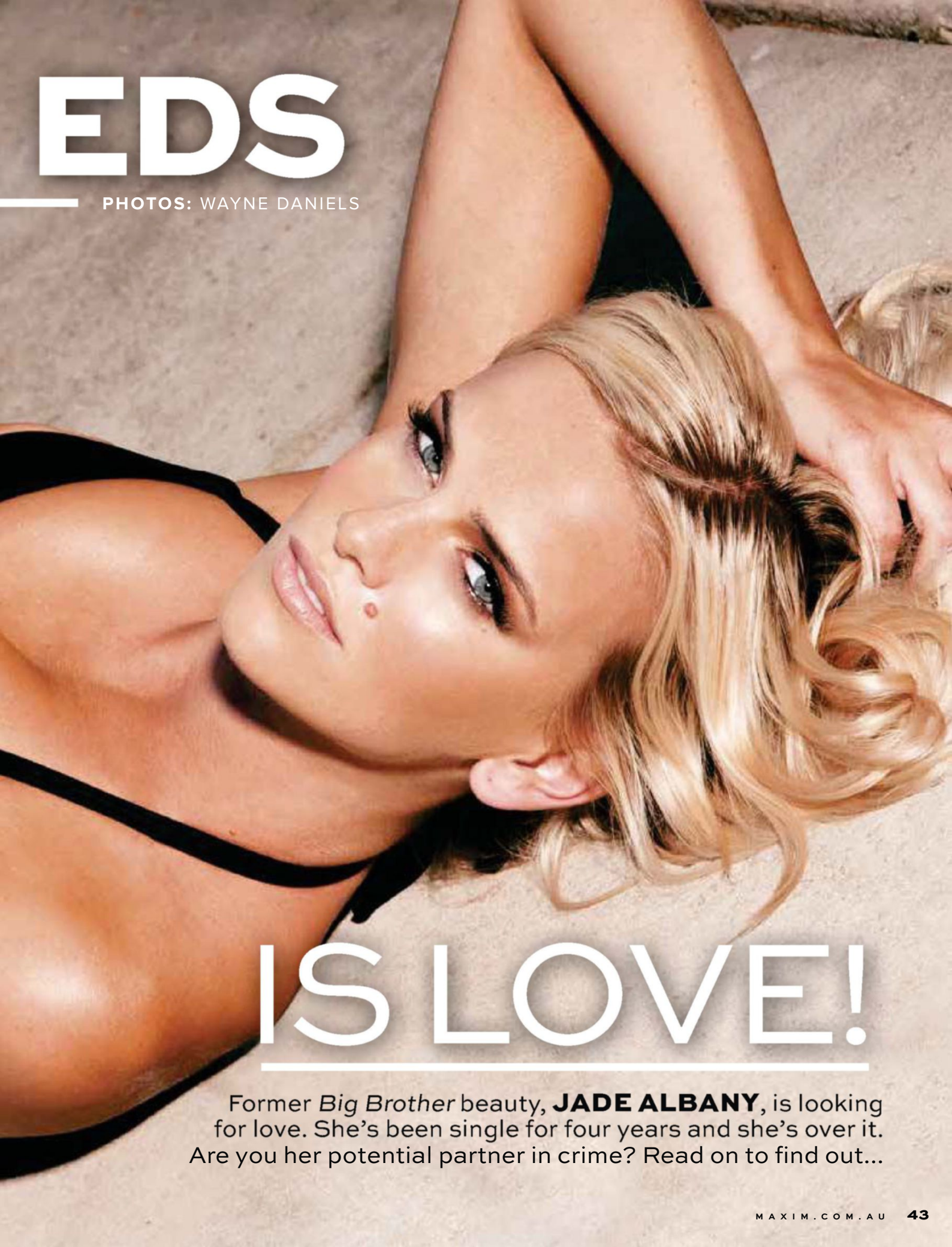
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ALL SHE NE





EDS

PHOTOS: WAYNE DANIELS

IS LOVE!

Former *Big Brother* beauty, **JADE ALBANY**, is looking for love. She's been single for four years and she's over it. Are you her potential partner in crime? Read on to find out...



Hey Jade, tell us a bit about yourself.

I'm half-Italian half-Australian, speak fluent Italian and moved to Italy at 18 to start modelling in Milan, Spain and New York. I was on Italy's *Next Top Model* but left the competition because the girls were not healthy – I have always been into my health and fitness and have never agreed with the whole carrot sticks and water diet many models do. I came back to Australia, got back into acting, had a few small gigs then got into *Big Brother* and came second in the 2013 season.

What have you been up to since?

I have been getting back into my acting again and have had a few bit parts. Plus I've always modelled so enjoying doing some more of that again, too.

Congrats on your MAXIM cover shoot.

Thanks. I'm pretty excited to be on the cover. Gorgeous women, like Jennifer Hawkins, have been graced the *MAXIM* cover and it's a classy men's magazine so my parents won't cringe when they see it.

Being your first men's mag shoot, how did you feel going into the shoot?

When I was asked to shoot for *MAXIM* I did my research and it's had some amazing girls on the cover. It's a lot classier than the other magazines out there and the shoot concept was beautiful, so I was super excited. I'm really happy with the results. The *MAXIM* team are amazing – make-up, styling, photography – they all made me look good.

You pose in some cool swimwear in this shoot. Ever had a wardrobe malfunction at the beach or a pool party?

I have flashed an entire pool full of people when I attempted to do a dive, badly, into a pool. I couldn't stop laughing. It was so funny yet embarrassing.

What do you do when you're not posing for MAXIM?

Gym, auditions, castings, meetings, work, family, friends, gym...

What's your best asset?

My loving nature. I love fully, openly and quickly but it often gets me into trouble because I care too much about people who end up treating me like crap or take advantage.

You're currently single. Do you enjoy it?

After four years of being single I'm a little bit over it to be honest. I like being independent and career driven but sometimes it would be nice to have a partner in crime, to workout with, someone to support you, be your pillar of strength, someone to come home to.

Speaking of homes, you found romance inside the Big Brother house, with fellow contestant Ed Lower, but split soon after you returned to the real world. Why?

Ed and I were completely different people outside of the *BB* house. Our lives, morals, and social circles are totally different. Is Ed an ex? I'd say no, the relationship in the house was one-sided and never existed in the real world. But he will forever be a great friend and I wish him all the best. We will always have that experience and he will always be the biggest part of it for me. It was one of the best things I've ever done and I don't regret anything.

So, what kind of guy are you looking for these days?

My ideal man is fit and muscly, built like a footballer, meaningful tattoos, older than me, a kind smile, love for dogs and the simple things in life – beach, family, travel... and walks in the park. One that can always make me laugh, calms my nerves, and be my knight in shining armour when I need him. So yeah, not much at all. Haha!

Yes, seems easy enough.

The thing is I'm so over the cheaters, liars, and all the "I'm serious" men who turn out to be massive drop kicks and run away at the drop of a hat.

Would you ever date a Twitter or Instagram follower?

I'm not sure. Never say never, but to get my attention on social media without me following them as well would be hard to do without being stalkerish.

What's the worst date you've ever had?

To be honest I don't really date. I can count on one hand how many proper dates I've been on. I pick my dates carefully.

But you can't pick the pick-up lines constantly thrown at you. What's the worst you've ever heard?

"I have a hotel room next door and you could stay there if you wanted so you don't have to drive home." Umm... no thanks I'm fine!

When is a guy more likely to get lucky with you?

Ooh, tough question. If he's kind and makes the effort to call and allocate time for me in his busy schedule. Someone who takes command.

Describe your perfect date?

Something simple like a walk on the beach, playing with the dogs or going to the zoo.

Generally, where do men go wrong with women?

I've been single for four years. I obviously suck at this!

Fair call. What's one thing men should always know about women?

We overthink everything and think completely differently to you. We will stew over why you haven't texted for three days just to realise nothing at all was wrong, you were just busy. Women are never ever too busy to text, it's a concept we just don't get.

When do you feel sexy?

At the end of a big workout I always feel healthier and accomplished. Back in the day I would've said that moment in your boyfriend's shirt sitting on the balcony early in the morning when he brings you coffee, kisses you even though you have no make-up, and still thinks you're amazing.

Sounds mushy. What do you wear to bed?

Usually my Victoria's Secret nighty or underwear with an oversized singlet, but in winter I add a million blankets. I'm always cold.

What's the naughtiest thing you've ever done in your life?

I'm a rule keeper so probably swim naked or something boring.

Finally, what can't you live without?

I managed to live without everything for 101 days in the *BB* house, so I'm adaptable.

“ I love fully, openly and quickly but it often gets me into trouble... ”

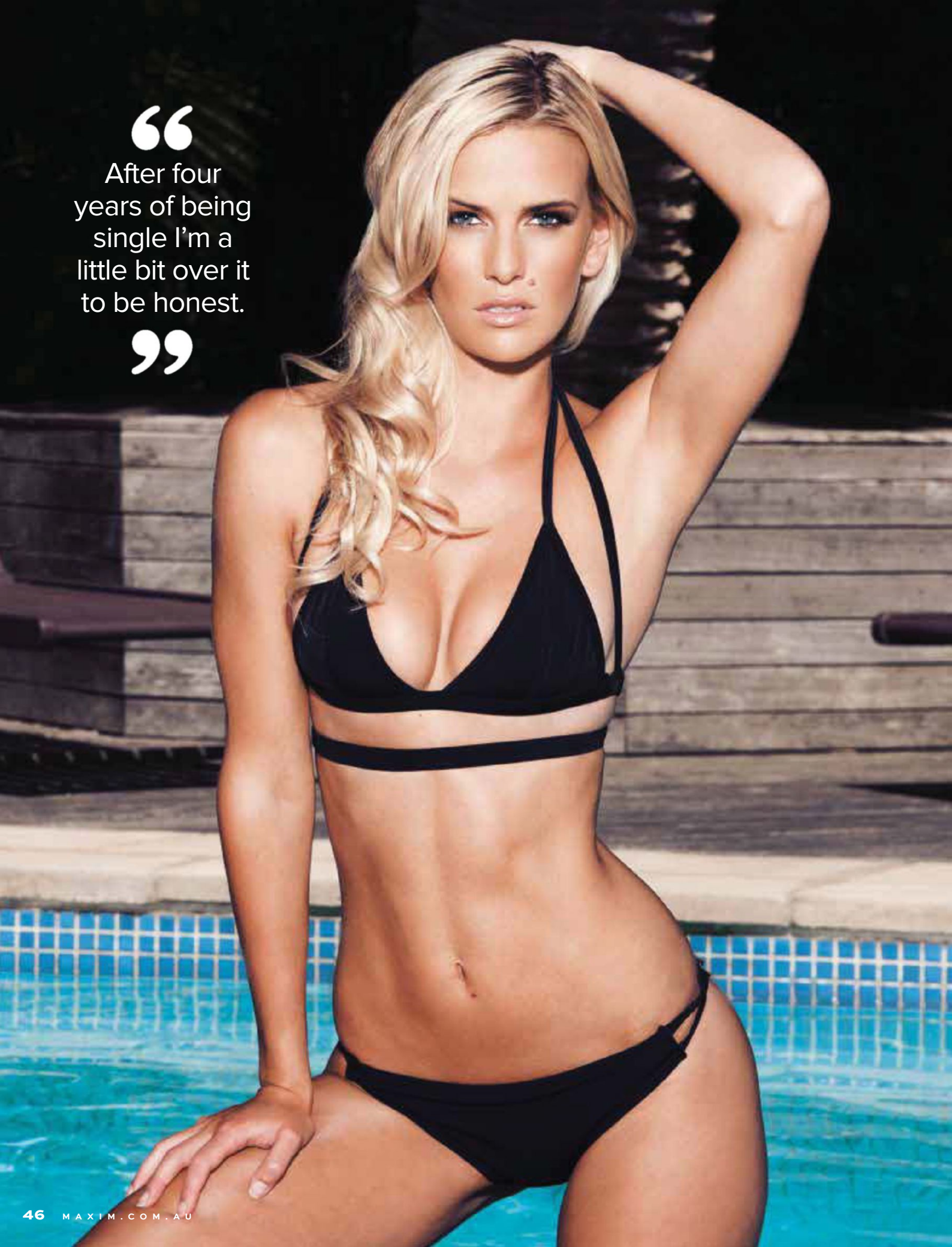


(this page &
opening spread)
Sheridyn Fisher bikini:
sheridynswim.com.au

“

After four
years of being
single I'm a
little bit over it
to be honest.

”





(this page)
Sheridyn Fisher
bikini bottom:
sheridynswim.com.au

(left page)
So Noire bikini:
sonoire.com.au

Status Update

HOMETOWN:

"I don't really have one. I was born in Italy, then lived in Byron Bay, the Southern Highlands, Ballina (in NSW), and now live in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs."

BORN:

August 8, 1990.

JOB: "Model, actress, personal trainer."

HOBBIES:

"The gym."

FIVE WORDS TO DESCRIBE ME:

"Loving, grounded, caring, stubborn, driven."

FAVOURITE

DRINK: "I don't drink alcohol so probably water. Back when I used to drink it was whisky."

FUN FACT:

"I used to walk into poles and doors a lot as a teenager. I was always off with the fairies."

LIFE MOTTO:

"Never stop dreaming, anything is possible."

INSTAGRAM:

@Jadealbany

TWITTER:

@Jadealbany

(this page)

Maneater

Swimwear bikini:

maneaterswimwear.com

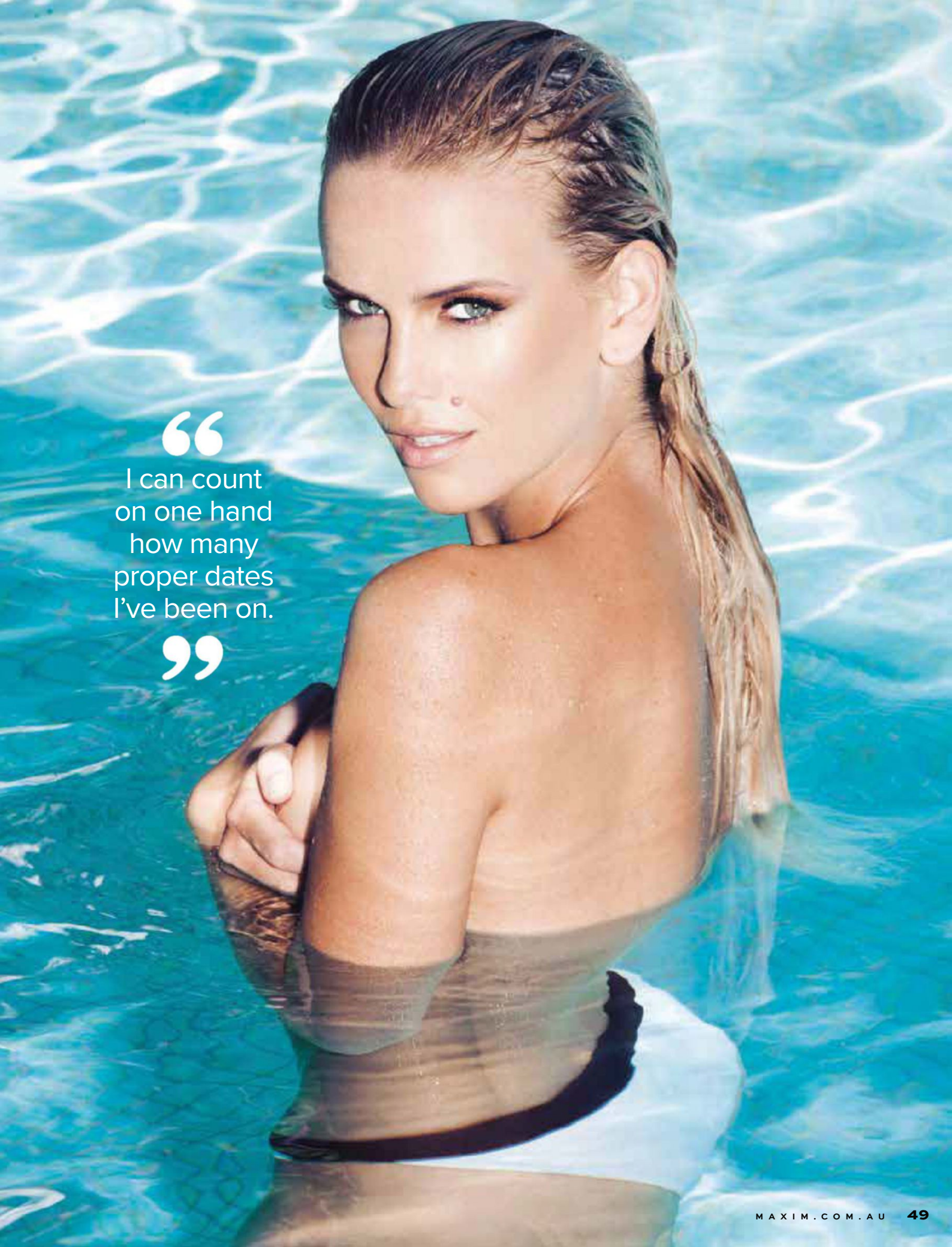
(right page)

Sheridyn Fisher

bikini bottom:

sherdynswim.com.au



A full-page photograph of a woman with long, wet, light brown hair, looking back over her shoulder at the camera. She is in a swimming pool, with her back to the camera and her arms crossed. She is wearing a white bikini bottom. The water is a vibrant blue with ripples. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

“
I can count
on one hand
how many
proper dates
I've been on.
”

“

I'm so over the
cheaters, liars,
and all the 'I'm
serious' men
who turn out
to be massive
drop kicks.

”

(this page)
**Constantina and
Louise swimwear:**
[constantinaand
louise.com](http://constantinaand
louise.com)

Windsor Smith heels:
windsorsmith.com.au

INTERVIEW:
SANTI PINTADO
HAIR & MAKE-UP:
HELEN SHIELDS
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2015

Australia's

LARGEST SWIMWEAR

MODEL SEARCH



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THE MAKING OF NETFLIX



NETFLIX IN A NUTSHELL

WHAT?

An all you-can-eat mixture of Netflix original TV shows and movies as well as a solid mix of some of the best content Hollywood has to offer.

HOW?

Subscribe to a no commitment monthly fee for around \$10 for unlimited content to any Internet connected device, smart TV, smart phone or tablet.

WHY?

So you can watch what you want, where you want, whenever you want.

WHEN?

Netflix is available in Australia and New Zealand from March 24, 2015.

A BRIEF HISTORY

1997 Reed Hastings and fellow software executive Marc Randolph co-found Netflix to offer online movie rentals.

1999 Netflix launches the subscription service, offering unlimited rentals for one low monthly subscription.

2000 Netflix launches the personalized movie recommendation system that uses Netflix members' ratings to accurately predict choices for all Netflix members.

NETFLIX is finally here in Australia and *MAXIM TV's* James Kerley headed over to their US offices to chat to the brains behind the multi billion-dollar company, check out what all the fuss is about and give you this lowdown...

W T F I S N E T F L I X ?

No, it's not the latest porn site you need to check out but it is coming to Australia this month and can be a pretty addictive Internet-sourced form of entertainment. Basically, Netflix is a SVOD (subscription video on demand) service that for a flat monthly fee lets you watch TV shows, movies, documentaries, and stand-up comedy over the Internet (smart TV's, tablets, smart phones, video game consoles, Apple TV, Chromecast, Blu-ray and home theatre systems, and set top boxes) rather than over terrestrial (free to air) TV broadcast services (ABC, Seven, Nine and Ten) or cable/pay services like Foxtel. The main difference is you watch what you want, where you want, and when you want rather than when some fat cat thinks you should watch it and when they can sell the most advertisement spots around it.

Essentially it's almost like pirating your favourite shows and watching as many as you like – except you pay a token monthly fee and the tech nerds at Netflix make sure you get the fastest and best quality stream your bandwidth can handle. They also throw in a complex system that monitors what you watch, how much you like it and suggests more and more things that you would logically also like, given your tastes. So, in essence, the more you use it the more it gets to “know” you and recommend more things in your tastes. It's almost like a really attentive girlfriend if we were to use an objectifying metaphor of the female human being here. Which we aren't.

As far as content goes, let's be clear – Netflix doesn't have every single TV show and movie on the planet, nor do they have the latest episode of every single show. They do, however, have some original content like *House of Cards*, *Marvel's Daredevil* and *Bloodline* (with Aussie Ben Mendelsohn) and a bunch of other original programming on the way supported by a great range of library titles like *The Matrix*. Where it gets tricky is that as this is all very new to Australia, some rights to shows like *Homeland* have been sold to Aussie TV networks, who get the first run and then Netflix takes over from there.

NETFLIX BY THE NUMBERS

57 MILLION

members globally in over 50 countries



2002 Netflix makes its initial public offering (IPO on Nasdaq under the ticker “NFLX” with 600,000 members in the US).

2005 The number of Netflix members rises to 4.2 million.

2007 Netflix introduces streaming, which allows members to instantly watch television shows and movies on their personal computers.

NETFLIX BY THE NUMBERS
10 Golden Globe nominations to date



1. Yep, they sure love TV at Netflix – even Homer gets a look-in on the shutter door; 2. One of the many kids' content areas at Netflix HQ; 3. A device testing room where hundreds of devices are tested to ensure optimal netflixage.



ONES TO WATCH

BLOODLINE

Set in Florida, *Bloodline* checks out a pretty messed up family that Netflix Chief Content Officer Ted Sarandos describes as “a very dark exploration of a family dynamic with a very prominent family... it’s from the creators of *Damages*.” It’s a gritty look at a family that will no doubt have you judging your way to realising your family looks like *The Brady Bunch* in comparison. Ted says about Aussie legend Ben Mendelsohn, “It’s a huge breakout for him. People will see him like they’ve never seen him before.”

MARVEL'S DAREDEVIL

True to all superhero tales *Daredevil* features a normal-by-day/world-saver-by-night guy with a twisted childhood. Murdock (Charlie Cox) was blinded as a kid but got some extraordinary senses instead. It’s set in modern day New York City and looks bad ass. With thirteen one-hour serves of the Marvel Mania it’s the first in four intertwining series’ from Marvel exclusively premiering on Netflix.

HOUSE OF CARDS

This is classic Kevin Spacey at his best. A twisted senator who keeps taking evil to the next level and his ice cold wife. All three seasons of this massive show will be available on Netflix when they launch on March 24, so not only can you find out what’s next in store for Frank and Claire Underwood, but you can also go back to the very beginning of season one and watch it all over again.

A BRIEF HISTORY (CONTINUED)

2008 Netflix partners with consumer electronics companies to stream on the Xbox 360, Blu-ray disc players and TV set-top boxes.

2009 Netflix partners with consumer electronics companies to stream on the PS3, Internet connected TVs and other Internet connected devices.

NETFLIX BY THE NUMBERS

45 Emmy nominations to date

320

hours of original content globally will be produced by Netflix this year. This is three times the original content that was produced in 2014

I was lucky enough to go over to the US and meet the minds behind the beast of a 27.5 billion-dollar company that started with a few blokes licking envelopes and sending DVD's across the US. What was just as fascinating

about how this tech company works is the dudes behind it all – cutting-edge, smartest-in-the-room types and a boss verging on the billionaire mark – there certainly was a lot to learn from these operators.



THE BOSS: Reed Hastings, Founder and CEO
HOBBIES: Occasional snowboarder/board member for Facebook
SMASHES: Red Wines and Margaritas
SWEARS IN OUR INTERVIEW AT NETFLIX HQ IN SILICON VALLEY? F–k yes!

If there's a dude you aspire to be like, it's probably this guy – a cashed-up, chilled out, super smart but super humble big hitter. With a Master's degree in computer science at Stanford to having served on the boards of Microsoft and Facebook, this dude's CV is pretty bloody impressive.

One of the coolest things about a company the size of Netflix is the balance between being hungry and being humble. This seems to filter down from this man – who is just that; humble but hungry. In spite of the wealth and changes his life has gone through in the last 14 years he's still with the same wife and describing himself as a long-shot husband when he was first with her. Reed doesn't have a cushy, pimped-out office but just cruises around checking on things and meeting every new employee when they first start.

I ask him how much of the platform that now has 50-plus million subscribers was planned out from the get-go. "We knew the Internet was coming but it wasn't big enough back in 1997. If we do DVD by post for a dozen years then the Internet will catch up," he explains. And that's pretty much what happened – a bit of a battle with Blockbuster video and a mess up where they lost a huge amount of subscribers but then hit their straps – and things just grew and grew. He adds, "If you asked me did I think I'd be getting to have dinner with Kevin Spacey, it'd be too far beyond me."

All this success of Netflix and small talk was getting to wear a bit thin so I ask for

some sure-fire tips that the rest of us can build at least a thousandth of what the big man has done. Reed talks about how if you want to build your own company and do something big yourself, passion and obsession are pretty important. "You've got to be pretty crazy," he says. "If you're the kind of person that would jump out of an aeroplane without a parachute because you figure on the way down a bird is going to fly by and catch you and land safely, that's the entrepreneur personality. You have to be irrationally optimistic. If you're a normal person it's not a good idea."

However, at his first crack at building a company (years before Netflix) Reed says he felt like a failure. "I was the CEO of the company and I wasn't very good at managing. I wasn't honest as a people person, I would be angry at people but I wouldn't tell them – I'd just act like a dick. I was just young and immature. I cared about the company and could see

I wasn't doing a good job so at least I was self-aware. I wasn't able to be great so I tried quitting. I had this incredible board of directors who were like, 'You're right, you are f–king up, but here's what you should do and you should give it a try for another year. And then I got better at the people stuff. You have got to move forward and keep going to the next challenge.'

So what's his proudest moment to date? "House of Cards, opening night Washington DC and all that talent there," he smirks. "I was just like, 'Oh my God.'" And his thoughts about Netflix in Australia? "Foxtel has been huge and long term. Australia is a huge competitor market but that's fun and exciting. We want to have Australian films all over the world." Reed describes Netflix as "a service with no ads, that's never had ads" who aim to be global by 2016. And when asked if he would consider teaming up with other providers, like Stan or Presto, he replies, "Nah, we'll compete."



2010 Netflix is available on the Apple iPad, iPhone and iPod Touch, the Nintendo Wii, and other Internet connected devices. Netflix launches its service in Canada.

2011 Netflix launches throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.

2012 Netflix became available in Europe including the United Kingdom, Ireland and in the Nordic Countries. Netflix wins its first Primetime Emmy Engineering Award.



1

2



THE NERD/BRAINIAC: Neil Hunt, Chief Product Officer

LIVES: In a house he designed himself with recycled jeans stuffed in the walls

SMASHES: Algorithms and goes nuts for a bottle of red wine

SMARTER THAN THE SMARTEST GUY YOU KNOW? Yep

Now as far as tech geeks go, this bloke is stage five. A gentle legend with an intelligence that fills the room with a little spilling out the door. He heads up the tech side of Netflix and talking about tech with him was like watching a sex pest describe Tinder. He's excited to say the least. Each day this guy gets to burn a million dollars on researching how to make Netflix's tech engine work better. Through a series of huge group tests, they tweak tiny things in the user interface to see how people react stronger in what they call A/B testing. Whatever works (group A or B) then becomes the new, making Netflix a massively fluid and evolving machine.

Neil had a lot of love for tech but also the meeting point between technology and human psychology. "There's a fascinating thing that I've been thinking about a lot recently," he explains. "For millions of years humans have had the choice of do it or don't do it, am I going to eat the berry or not eat the berry. Never more than one or two things to choose between and technology in the last few dozen years has brought us within reach of choices of tens or hundreds or thousands of things and we've adapted to that with simple tools. We'll take the most popular or the new

because everything else is not interesting and that's actually not very satisfactory, and what we've done with Netflix is take that problem and put the right stuff in front of you, not just the new stuff. So reducing our library from thousands down to the three that you see when you sit down to watch TV."

What else is interesting is the notion that his 'machine' can select what people want for themselves better than they could tell the machine. "What we have subsequently learnt is people rate, not particularly by enjoyment but by perceived quality and mixture of how they want their friends to perceive them and so forth." And what he has found is more accurate is simply observing people. "Just watching if someone watched it or not, maybe there is a threshold at 50 minutes, did they watch up till there? Did they watch beyond there?"

After a while he got even more excited talking about probability maps and logic chains but in essence Neil, his 1000-odd employees and mega servers around the world sort through this huge amount of info and all to try to get people more of what they really want to enjoy.

I decide to check on what sort of smut



we can look forward to on Netflix and search a few terms like "threesome" which pops up a nice assortment of 14 films. Neil goes on to explain how their tagging process works. "We've got a big handful of employees whose job is to watch and enjoy the shows and movies. They categorise in about 500 different categories, whether it's gritty, whether it's cinematically beautiful, whether it's got character development on a scale of 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, whether it's based on a book, whether it's got a strong female lead... and those things are helpful in several dimensions."

The humility seen in the employees is also in the tech with Netflix explaining why it suggests what it does so you can forgive it if it guesses wrong as to what you'd like to watch next. I ask Neil what he is most proud of and he replies, "Filling a third of the Internet every night (in the USA) is pretty compelling." Not a bad effort really.

NETFLIX BY THE NUMBERS

2BILLION

hours of TV shows and movies are consumed each month

A BRIEF HISTORY
(CONTINUED)

2013 Netflix expands to the Netherlands and garners 31 primetime Emmy nominations including outstanding drama series, comedy series and documentary or nonfiction special for *House of Cards*, *Orange Is The New Black*, and *The Square* respectively. *House of Cards* wins three Primetime Emmy Awards and Netflix is the first Internet TV network nominated for a primetime Emmy.

NETFLIX BY THE NUMBERS

2 Academy Award nominations to date



3



THE HUSTLING CREATIVE: Ted Sarandos, Chief Content Officer
SMASHES: Craft Beer
COMMISSIONED SHOWS: *House of Cards*, *Marco Polo*, *Bloodline*
FUN FACT: His favourites list on his phone is the who's who of Hollywood

With a Hollywood smile, and a New York bluntness, he's the sort of getting-shit-done specialist who dominates and laughs all the way to the country club. Pre-Netflix Ted worked for some DVD and video distribution companies but slowly got to know the studios and big guns throughout Hollywood and over the last 14 years has been key in Netflix's huge growth, scoring himself on *Time* magazine's list of 100 Most Influential People in the process.

Ted smoothly points out the benefits of SVOD for things like comedy where audience can find various acts they would generally miss on the bigger network specials. Aussie legends like Jim Jefferies are plentiful on Netflix dropping C-bombs like cigarette butts, something traditional TV isn't really going to risk.

On a more savoury note he mentions epic documentaries like the Leonardo DiCaprio exec-produced and Oscar-nominated *Virunga* – a true story about a Belgium prince who leads a troupe in the Congo protecting the last 800 mountain gorillas on the mountains and an oil

company trying to kill them.

Ted is pumped about all the new shows Netflix is bringing out – whether it be the Tina-Fey-produced *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt*, *Marvel's Daredevil*, or the fact they've locked-in the next four Adam Sandler films exclusively to Netflix. But what is interesting is the scale of Netflix's production, that they spent over \$3billion dollars on content in 2014 alone and this year they will be producing more than any other network on the planet.

Ted is also pumped about the absence of advertising and the fact subscribers can binge watch and view episodes back-to-back so there's no need for recaps or dumbing down storylines to allow for people forgetting what happened in the seven days since they last immersed themselves in their favourite shows.

He also explains that sometimes the death of a TV show isn't so much that it's a crap show but it simply couldn't find its audience. "In the UK, *Breaking Bad* got cancelled because it was on the wrong channel at the wrong time. It's less to do

with the quality of the show and more to do with the timeslot."

2015 is certainly a time where TV will shift in Australia. News, sports and time sensitive entertainment shows are still going to be only found on broadcast and Foxtel channels. But the supplements of affordable all-you-can-eat content from SVOD companies like Netflix, Stan and Presto means you can have a binge of various shows when you want, in HD, epic sound without the buffering of dodgy streaming sites or the guilty taste of bit torrent hunts. The question of which company to go with is certainly a tough one as some people like seafood buffets, other meat, and some punishing hipster vegans like their own sort of self-absorbed-instagrammably-biodynamic buffet. But as far as the tech side goes Netflix is certainly currently a world leader in Internet-delivered content technology and the US\$1million a day on tech and \$3billion per annum on content (and climbing) they are spending on furthering this lead should keep them there for some time. ■

1. Netflix's biggest player – Kevin Spacey and *House of Cards*; 2. Aussie Ben Mendelsohn (as Danny Rayburn) and Kyle Chandler (as John Rayburn) in *Bloodline*; 3. Charlie Cox as Matt Murdock, a lawyer-by-day crime fighter by night in *Marvel's Daredevil*.

2014 Netflix launches in six new countries in Europe (Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg and Switzerland). It also wins seven creative Emmy Awards for *House of Cards* and *Orange Is The New Black*. It also now has over 50 million members globally.

2016 **NETFLIX BY THE NUMBERS**
 is the year Netflix anticipates it will be global



Mike

The Untold Story of

When **boxing legend** Mike Tyson bit and spit out Evander Holyfield's ear during the **WBA Heavyweight Championship** fight in 1997, he also spit out his friendship with his then manager, and best mate, **Rory Holloway**. Now a boxing aficionado, as well as founder and general manager of ProMax Productions, Holloway reveals the undisputed whole truth about his experiences as Mike Tyson's **former manager** in his new book *Taming the Beast: The Untold Story of Mike Tyson*. From Iron Mike's wild approach to life to his training and deal making to his **sex and drug addictions** to his horrible driving, Holloway comes clean on all things everything and then some...



Tyson

Taming Mike Tyson, was that even possible? A lot has been said about the managers who tried to do so, everyone from Cus D'Amato to Magic Johnson. The best way to understand the challenges they faced as handlers is to identify the animal they were dealing with.

Michael Gerard Tyson didn't start out as a fearsome predator. He was born in a rough section of Brooklyn, and his single mother moved him and his older brother and sister to an even rougher section called Brownsville. There, Mike was taunted

about his tubby shape and "fairy boy" voice. He struggled in school. He saw friends stabbed, skulls cracked open, and says he never believed he would live past thirty. His one solace was raising pigeons in the coops on the roof. Even in the middle of that concrete jungle, these birds were beautiful and able to fly.

The day a bully killed one of his feathered friends before his eyes, Mike discovered he was more than a roly-poly cub. He whipped out his claws and beat that bully down. No longer feeling helpless, he joined a group of local thugs who engaged in thievery, muggings, and "skullduggery". This led to stints in Spofford, an infamous juvenile facility in

the Bronx, and when that failed to tame him, he was shipped off to Tryon Residential Center, a detention home for boys in upstate New York. At Tryon he discovered a passion for boxing, and the state released him into the care of Cus D'Amato, a boxing manager in nearby Catskill. Mike was still a cub, they reasoned. He could be controlled.

But cubs grow into tigers. Mike showed early signs of frisky aggressiveness, groping various schoolgirls while also growing stronger in the ring. Mike looked like a promising amateur, maybe even something more. When Mike was kicked out of the school, Cus simply shifted his focus

from academics to full-time boxing. The tiger grew. Over time, he was passed from one handler to another, none of whom seemed able to deal with his extreme actions and expressions of independence.

After winning the world-heavyweight-boxing belt, he still threw dice with the old street-corner gamblers and ate fried chicken with his boys on the steps of rundown apartment buildings. He went through money and marriages. He conquered men in the ring and women in the bedroom. There was no caging this beast. He was destined – or doomed – to break loose one day and really do some damage, perhaps even bite somebody.



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Mike making his entrance, with Rory behind him; Rory in the gym as his son, Michael Paris, works the speed bag; Rory striking a pose in his Team Tyson cap; Mike speaks to Don King.

The Talking Tiger...

A panda is one thing. A raccoon is another. And a tiger... Well, in that case, you've got a real beast on your hands. Don't believe me? Here's a sampling of statements made by Mike

"I don't want to be a tycoon. I just want to conquer people and their souls."

"I was spoiled, like a brat. I had anything I wanted... I've never had a job in my life."

"What I know how to do is hurt big, tough men — in the street and off."

"I think I'll take a bath in his blood."

"I can sell out Madison Square Garden masturbating."

"There are nine million people who see me in the ring and hate my guts. Most of them

are white. That's OK. Just spell my name right."

"My defence is impregnable, and I'm just ferocious. I want your heart. I want to eat his children. Praise be to Allah!"

"I'm on Zoloft to keep from killing y'all."

"I'm just a... dark shadowy figure from the bowels of iniquity. I wish I could be Mike who gets an endorsement deal, but you can't make a lie and a truth go together."

"I guess I'm gonna fade into Bolivian."

Eventually, that day did come. Watch the former champ give an interview and it's hard to reconcile his grimly violent statements with his docile, almost playful behavior. I remind myself he is a man who once let pet tigers roam about his living room, and who still raises pigeons at his Las Vegas home. A man who once told a judge an elderly, female judge — how he liked making women bleed in bed, and who still gets teary-eyed when he speaks about his days of being bullied. How do we

wrap our minds around that? He's a contradiction. An enigma. Perhaps it's that mix of primal darkness and vulnerability that will always hold our interest.

Rory, you knew Mike as a shy teenager and served the longest stretch as his manager? What drew you to him, and did you see his nature change at all over the years? RORY: Mike and me, we was tight. It was an all-natural, organic, special, childhood bond. I knew him better than



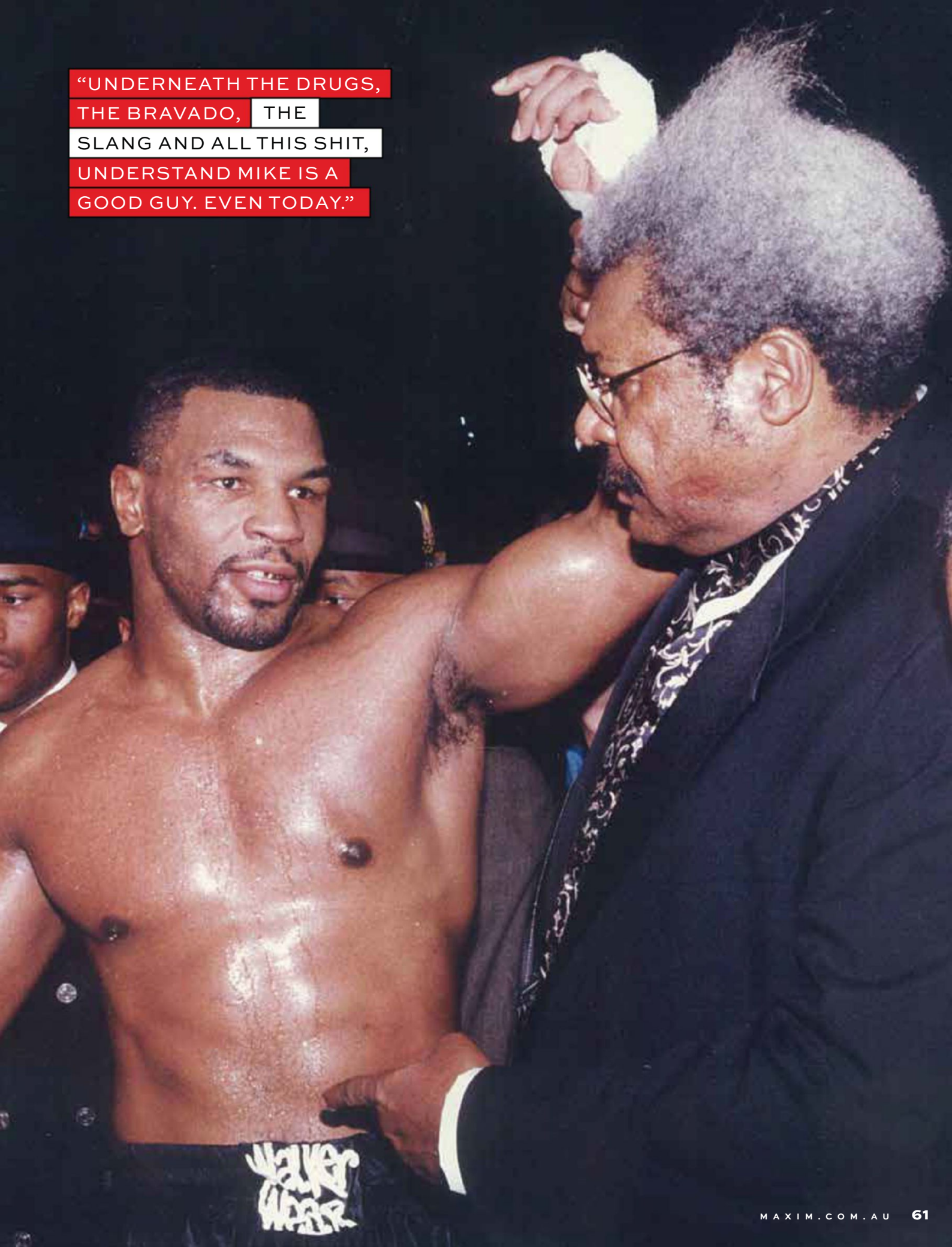
anyone, and I didn't have to brown-nose — as we say in the neighborhood — or nothing like that. He was just my boy. I treated him no different than I would any of my friends, and that was true when we had no money and when we had all the money in the world. Friendship is friendship.

Let me say this, I got some of my best qualities from Mike. There's no fanfare with him. He's humble. He's loyal. He's got a heart of gold. And he's one of the funniest cats you'll ever meet, except he's serious when these ridiculous things come outta his mouth. That makes it even funnier. Not one day of our lives together did I see him use no drugs. From the beginning, he was

a fighter-in-training, and he thought people who did that stuff were weak. When I hear how he's an addict, how he's in rehab — man, I don't know that guy. That's not the Mike I knew. He did drink, though. He'd take the hardest liquor and just turn it up. He'd put the cup down, and it was empty, like a little kid trying to do big-boy things.

Mike Tyson is a complex guy. By that, I mean, the Mike you get at 9am, that's not the Mike you get at 3pm or 11pm. He can be rational one moment, and do something completely insane the next. You just never know with Mike. I say he pulled off the greatest con in sports, making people feel sorry for him. His

"UNDERNEATH THE DRUGS,
THE BRAVADO, THE
SLANG AND ALL THIS SHIT,
UNDERSTAND MIKE IS A
GOOD GUY. EVEN TODAY."





"I CAN SELL OUT
MADISON SQUARE GARDEN
MASTURBATING."

corrupt mentality, he never got rid of that from when he was a kid. He'd play up the "Mike, the dumb boxer" act, and it worked. That became his game. In a short period, he got to be one of the most powerful cats on the planet in sports, and he had no real teaching how to handle all this. We'd try to coach him for interviews, for his public image, and he'd nod, "Okay, okay." Then he'd say whatever the hell he wanted.

We were dealing with a guy who was mentally ill. Every morning was an adventure... Mike loves the reek of chaos. He functions best in chaos. Can't be nothing smooth, can't be quiet for too long, or he's gotta start some shit. Maybe that's why he was so good in the ring. Cus taught him how to use that fear and control his emotions. When punches

were coming at him, he was at his calmest. His vision would get real focused and shrink so he could see everything. He was a master at it. Underneath the drugs, the bravado, the slang and all this shit, understand Mike is a good guy. Even today. Despite everything, he's loved by many, hated by few. People like him for his rawness, for his realness, but they'll use him in a moment. Mike thinks he is the hunter, but he's the one being hunted.



This is an edited
extract from
Taming the Beast:
The Untold Story of
Mike Tyson available
at www.amazon.com and www.barnesandnoble.com

**CLOCKWISE FROM
TOP LEFT:** Rory and Mike
during open gym with the
press; Helping Mike during a
training session; Co-managers
Rory Holloway and John
Horne with Mike in between.



Best Friends

Author Rory Holloway explains why he did it

Why did you decide to write this book now?

The book is 15 years in the making and I was inspired by my kids my legacy my family. During the time when I was with Mike my kids were young and they didn't know the magnitude of it all. As they got older, and they're young adults now, they started asking a lot of questions. And when Team Tyson broke up it was a media frenzy filled with speculation, a lot of blame and accusations pointed in all kinds of direction.

Why did you keep quiet for so long and only decide to tell your side of the story now?

With the accusations directed at me, because of my loyalty and friendship with Mike, I kept quiet for 15-20 years. I didn't say anything. I didn't come out and make no comment, I just became quiet. And sometimes people take silence as your guilt. It wasn't like I felt guilty of anything it was just that my bond with Mike goes back 30 years and out of my respect and friendship for him I was compelled to be quiet. But as time went on, times change, feelings change and the emotion is taken out of it. My kids wanted to know about the history of it all. So I was finally inspired to write my perspective of my side of the story.

In terms of accusations, what hurt you the most?

The betrayal. It had nothing to do with the business part of it. It was the personal side of it. Mike and I were best friends for a long time, since the early '80s. We had a very close bond and brotherhood. I can say that my relationship with Mike was stronger than my relationship with my biological brother. We just went through all the ups and downs and the good and the bad together.

So how did your bond with him break?

I just felt that Mike started straying away from the little bubble we created and he started hanging out with the wrong people and started being advised by the wrong people, his then wife and people around them, they

all had their own agenda. It was like everyone was taking their own pound of flesh. There was a time when Mike would consult with me on everything as friends. We would sit down and go over and work out what was best for both of us and I felt like he betrayed that coveted bond we had.

So he fired you?

It wasn't about him firing me or not firing me because he didn't fire me. His exact words when they asked him, "What about Rory Holloway?" He said, "I can't fire Rory. Rory is my brother, so he gotta do what he gotta do." So I didn't have a choice, I was taken aback by how it all transpired.

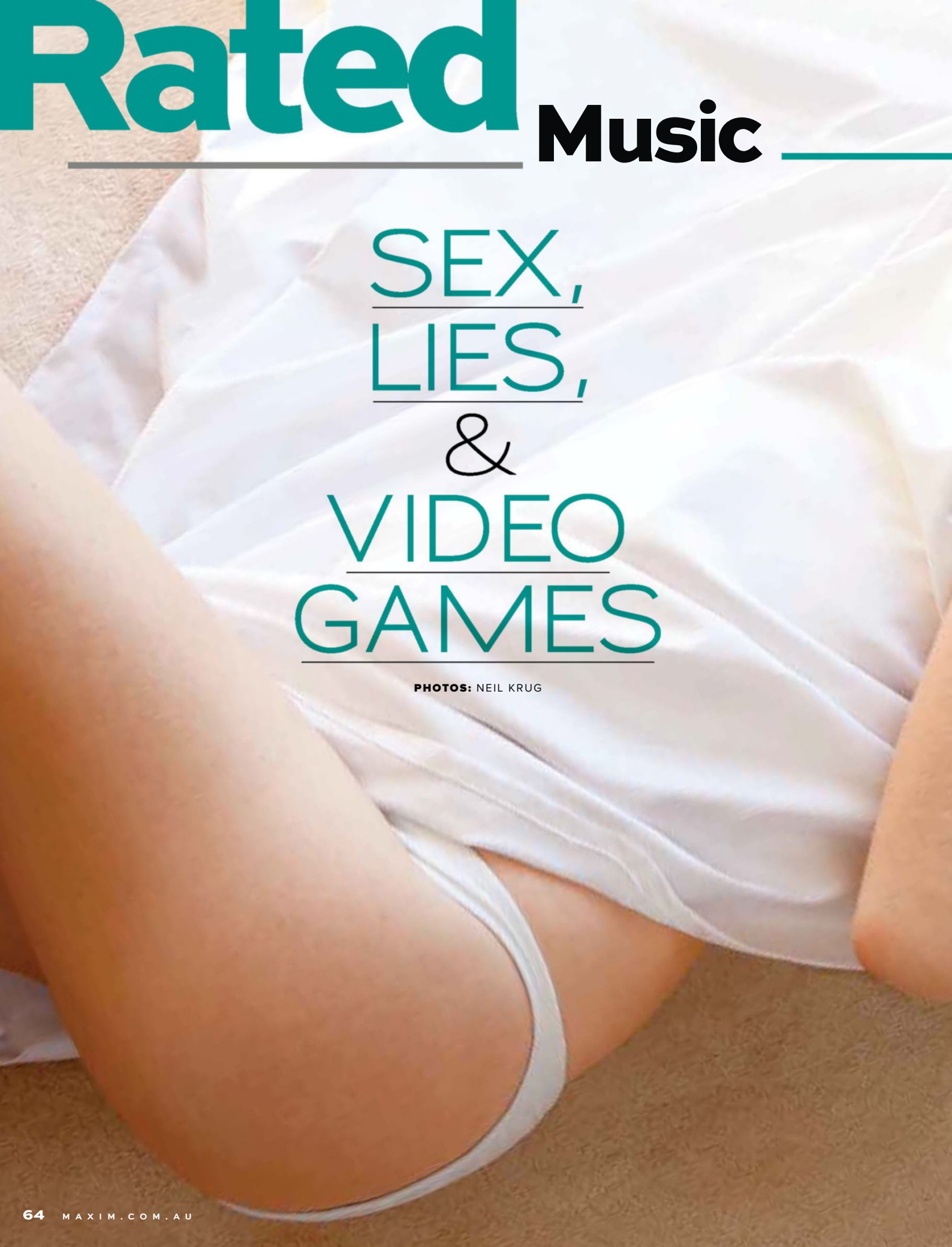
How did it all happen? How did you and the champ part ways?

Well... I talk about it in my book.

INTERVIEW: SANTI PINTADO



Rated Music

A close-up photograph of a person's legs, wearing white underwear, lying on a bed with white sheets. The background is a textured, light brown surface.

SEX, LIES, & VIDEO GAMES

PHOTOS: NEIL KRUG



Lana Del Rey is America's
sultriest and edgiest pop-music
sensation. But who is she really?

WORDS: IAN DALY



“WHEN I WENT DARKER WITH MY HAIR,
I DON’T KNOW WHY, BUT PEOPLE TOOK MY MUSIC
MORE SERIOUSLY. THERE’S A LOT TO BE
SAID FOR PRETENDING. YOU KNOW?”



Lana Del Rey, America's most enigmatic, controversial, and seductive rock star, spent the morning in Los Angeles traffic, anxious, wearing one of her favorite minidresses – the navy blue cotton one – on the prowl for some fake palm trees she wanted as onstage props for tomorrow night's show in the Hollywood Forever Cemetery.

It's the famed resting place of Rudolph Valentino and Fay Wray, and she felt certain some faux tropical flora would add the perfect finishing touch for these surreal final shows of her long 2014 tour. But she is home now and calm, at ease on the little deck just off her bedroom, hidden behind the tall hedges encircling her 1920s Tudor, freshly painted but stylishly in need of repair – Hollywood golden-age glamour gone slightly to seed – like a scene from *Sunset Boulevard* or, perhaps intentionally, one of her videos.

"I never saw myself in California," she tells me. Del Rey is as much provocateur as pop star, known for moody and lush songs about the intersection of sex and violence and money. The videos with which she made her name traffic in the faded imagery of American nostalgia and decline. She combines a classic, sultry beauty with a heavy dose of all-American alienation – the head cheerleader gone desperately wrong. A few years ago, she changed her name, changed her hair, discarded an entire album, left behind a world-beating partying habit, and started anew. For someone like that, California seems an inevitable landing point.

"I had such a love affair with New York," she says of her days as a struggling chanteuse. "I loved all the history that came with it, the early '60s, Bob Dylan, and the Beat poetry era. I was always kind of looking for this big artist revival, but I never really tapped into anything." She feels closer to that in Los Angeles, where she's found a few kindred spirits who share her fascination with "that early Laurel Canyon scene. Joni Mitchell, Neil Young...I tuned in to something here and never really wanted to leave."

Her two shows at hollywood forever mark the

end of a year of nonstop touring in support of *Ultraviolence*, a follow-up to 2012's *Born to Die*. *Ultraviolence*, recorded in Nashville with a seven-piece backing band, is rock-tinged and guitar-heavy but still replete with Del Rey's trademark hope-she's-joking songs like *Fucked My Way Up to the Top*. Most weirdly: Critics raved about the thing.

It's a stunning turnaround for an artist who spent the nascent portion of her career inspiring more confusion – and sometimes pure vitriol – than adoration. She emerged from the American pop-cultural slipstream, goes the story, fully formed, with the gorgeous Super 8-inflected video for *Video Games* and a two-song EP. Accompanying these was an impressionistic (some would say too impressionistic) backstory with wild chapters on alcoholism, a stint in a New Jersey trailer park, and a litany of destructive relationships with older and at times awful men.

Then came the backlash. It started with her admittedly strange *Saturday Night Live* performance in 2012, in which she seemed to be channeling a heavily medicated Marlene Dietrich. Music bloggers went on the attack, calling her "talent-starved," an "unconvincing work of fiction," and an "annoyingly faux minx." But here's the thing: People became entranced. Her debut album sold seven million copies worldwide, and *Ultraviolence* debuted on iTunes at number one in 80 countries around the world. Her concerts became frenzied pop-culture events.

These days Lana tends to shrug off criticism about her altered appearance or the veracity of her persona. She concedes that "when I went darker with my hair, I don't know why, but people took my music more seriously." The same thing happened when she changed her name from plain Lizzy Grant to Lana Del Rey. It opened things up for her, freed her. "There's a lot to be said for pretending," she says. "You know?"

Lana Del Rey once described herself as a "gangsta Nancy Sinatra," and it's a fairly apt description of her music. Her songs, steeped in '90s trip-hop and rounded out with lush '60s strings, are like dioramas: tiny, insular worlds where the atmosphere is more important than the facts. Much like her life. Del Rey's parents dropped out of the New York City advertising game when she was a baby and raised her and her two younger siblings in rural Lake Placid. She was purportedly a wildly rebellious kid who partied hard as a teen until her parents sent her away to boarding school to straighten up. She didn't start writing songs until she was 18.

"I was in college in the Bronx [at Fordham], and I didn't know what to do with myself," she says. "Everyone was going out drinking, so I had to try to find something else." She started hitting the open-mike nights in Brooklyn, and her mostly traditional girl-pop was compelling

enough that in 2007, while still a senior, she signed a record deal with an indie label. Then, a complete reboot: She bought herself out of that contract, trashed the album she had cut, destroyed all traces of the woman she had been, and tried again.

So she wasn't exactly an overnight sensation, not really, and Del Rey doesn't like the idea of it much anyway. "For me, there really wasn't reinvention. That is more of other people's reinterpretation. I feel so much continuity between all my music and all the videos." She describes her frustration at her first label and the need to break out. "I really wanted to keep making music, but my label had shelved my records for two years. And I... I knew what I wanted to do. I wanted to incorporate cinematic strings with a heavier, nastier sound and lyrics."

That nastiness pervaded her new identity as well. Lizzy Grant was all about blond sweetness, but Lana Del Rey flaunted her obsessions with fatalism, death, seediness, and danger. In her 2013 short film *Tropico* – a swirling dreamscape suffused with Latino gangsters and strippers – Del Rey cast herself as an erotic dancer with a double-teardrop tattoo. Some criticized her for reinforcing stereotypes of Latinos as thugs and criminals. But Del Rey sees it as a version of herself. "I live in East LA, and I speak Spanish," she says. "The girls who work in the club in the video are my friends, people I knew before I became a little more well-known. Like, I've always spoken Spanish in all my songs the past few years. So for me, personally, it's not a far-out-there reference."

That's all fine, except that, well, she doesn't live in East Los Angeles or anywhere near it. Not all of her songs have Spanish in them. And saying that some of your best friends are Latino... Let's just leave that one alone. Del Rey isn't about to apologize for anything, but it's clear that she feels misunderstood. "I'm missing the mark in terms of having comrades and being aligned with a musical movement," she says. "But I definitely feel like what I come up with musically is on the pulse of what is relevant."

And that, after all the speculation about her nature, background, and intentions, is what matters. It's beyond the point if she really meant it when she said, "I wish I was dead already" or "Feminism is just not an interesting concept" or, if one of her most notorious songs is to be believed, her reproductive organs taste like a certain well-known soda (look it up).

Everything has been asked and answered, by the critics and the online trolls and the endless writers of endless knee-jerk think pieces. The music and the images are too good to get trapped by such considerations. And if her trajectory as an anti-pop pop star proves anything, it is that her art, sincere or otherwise, is hers and hers alone. ■





HER SONGS ARE LIKE DIORAMAS:
TINY, INSULAR WORLDS WHERE THE
ATMOSPHERE IS MORE IMPORTANT
THAN THE FACTS. MUCH LIKE HER LIFE.

STYLING: JOHNNY BLUEEYES, ASSISTED BY CARI NELSON; **HAIR:** ANNA COFONE USING ORIBE AND BABYLISS; **MAKE-UP:** PAMELA COCHRANE AT BRIDGE FOR MAC COSMETICS

Rated **MUSIC**

Best Fests

UK indie rock trio **The Wombats**
each reveal their top three
favourite music festivals



DAN HAGGIS

(drums, percussion, keyboard)

GLASTONBURY

(Pilton, Somerset, England)

This one doesn't really need an explanation! It's the UK's biggest, most ridiculous gathering of all genres of music and general performance where all the festival goers of all ages leave their inhibitions and normal lives at home for three to four days and go wild in about three feet of mud. I've seen young kids being pushed around in a wheel barrow by their parents rocking out to Bjork. Playing this one is always a highlight of the summer.

SPLENDOUR IN THE GRASS

(Byron Bay, NSW)

This Australian classic is immense. I'll never forget the first time we played this one. We didn't know what to expect and when we walked out onto the stage we had 10,000 people singing along to every word of the set! We had a mighty fine party after, saw Sigur Rós play a blinder and ended up chatting to Andrew from Wolfmother and his parents in what seemed like a tropical rainforest resort! Just a standard night out in Liverpool basically.

HURRICANE & SOUTHSIDE

(Scheeßel, Germany
& Tuttlingen, Germany)

These two sister festivals are insane. They are huge stages with huge crowds who all seem to have a passion for music, moshing and circle pits like not many other festivals we've played. It's kind of like the Leeds/Reading (UK festivals) of Germany. You can expect inebriated teenagers moshing and dancing to the silence in between songs at this one!!



MATTHEW MURPHY

(lead vocals, guitar, keyboard)

T IN THE PARK

(Strathallan, Perthshire, Scotland)

A raucous Scottish festival and we're very excited to be returning this summer. Watch out for pints of dubious yellow liquid flying through the air.

"WATCH OUT FOR
PINTS OF DUBIOUS
YELLOW LIQUID FLYING
THROUGH THE AIR."

GROOVE IN THE MOO

(Oakbank, SA; Bunbury, WA;
Bendigo, Vic; Canberra, ACT;
Maitland, NSW; Townsville, Qld)

Playing in extremely cold weather at the Canberra leg of this touring festival was one of our 2011 highlights. When we arrived at the Bendigo site we had a signing session. We'd been told that things could get pretty wild and the first person in the queue promptly asked us to "sign her tits"!

FALLS FESTIVAL

(Lorne, Vic; Marion Bay, Tas;
Byron Bay, NSW)

It was great to bring in the new year with this little beauty in 2014. Such an electric atmosphere and our first trip to Tasmania!



**TORD ØVERLAND
KNUDSEN**

(bass guitar, guitar, keyboard)

PINKPOP

(Landgraaf, Netherlands)

The first big festival we ever did in Holland, the crowd was a sea of pink, which was cool. Great massages backstage, too!

PUKKLEPOP

(Hasselt, Belgium)

One of the best festivals in Europe if not the world. Always a great line-up. The first time we played there Tord was so hungover he chundered moments before running onstage, it was being recorded live and we thought we were going to have to cancel it!

COACHELLA

(Indio, California)

Very chilled out gathering near Palm Springs, always hot, beautiful location. Met Courtney Love and chatted about Liverpool then Dan ate an interesting cookie and had a freak out in his hotel room after seeing the thousand-year-old vampire Eric from *True Blood* walking towards him.



The Wombats (from left to right):
Tord, Murphy and Dan

THE WOMBATS
NEW ALBUM
GLITTERBUG IS
OUT APRIL 10



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Visit **MAXIM Australia** online for your fix of girls, entertainment, sport, tech, lifestyle, competitions, and the web's hottest video content. Well, the hottest content that doesn't involve the words "feeder fetish webcam". We know you'll totally search for that after you read this.

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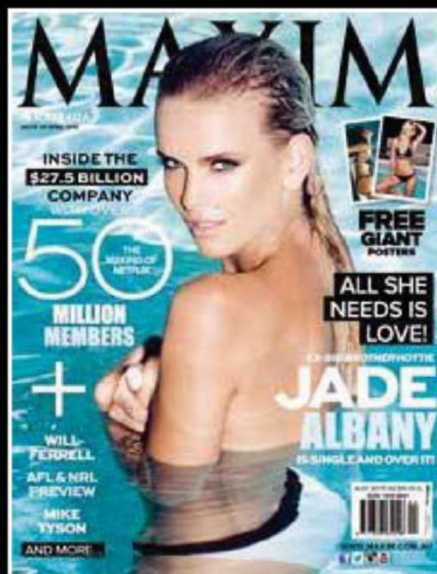
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Rated Games

Bloodborne

FORMAT: PS4
RELEASE: March 25

LONG STORY SHORT:

From Software may not have the most exciting name in game development, but the studio has carved out a cult following thanks to its sadistic *Dark Souls* series. That series' dark, brooding worlds are filled with death and deception where a game over screen is but a misplaced step or poorly executed sword swipe away. *Bloodborne* is a new IP releasing exclusively for PS4 and it retains the gothic, medieval vibe and violence we've come to expect, while adding a number of new elements. This includes the

ability to regain slithers of hope in combat with well-timed attacks, dynamically change weapons between two states depending on how combat evolves, and much-desired co-op play. The game also includes procedurally generated dungeons that, once initiated by the player, create a unique experience that remains active for the rest of the game. An intriguing evolution of the *Dark Souls* experience.



Project CARS

FORMAT: PS4, XBO, PC, Wii U
RELEASE: April 2

LONG STORY SHORT:

Slightly Mad Studios (*Need for Speed: Shift*) is stepping into the world dominated by *Forza Motorsport* and *Gran Turismo* with a genuine racing simulator with all the bells and whistles. This is real-deal racing, with dynamic weather, tonnes of car tinkering options, full race weekends, immaculately crafted dashboards and truly enjoyable physics that give you not only a great sense of speed, but that lovely feeling of pulling a car into

a corner and powering out with the perfect balance of brake, weight and power. The game offers a rich selection of car disciplines, ranging from your Formula 1s right through to Ford Escorts and Pagani Zondas. It looks a treat, too, and will be coming with Oculus Rift support. We've played the game in Virtual Reality, and if you have any love of race games, it's pretty much an essential experience. Get amongst it.



Resident Evil Revelations 2

FORMAT: PS4, XBO, PC, PS3, 360
RELEASE: March 20

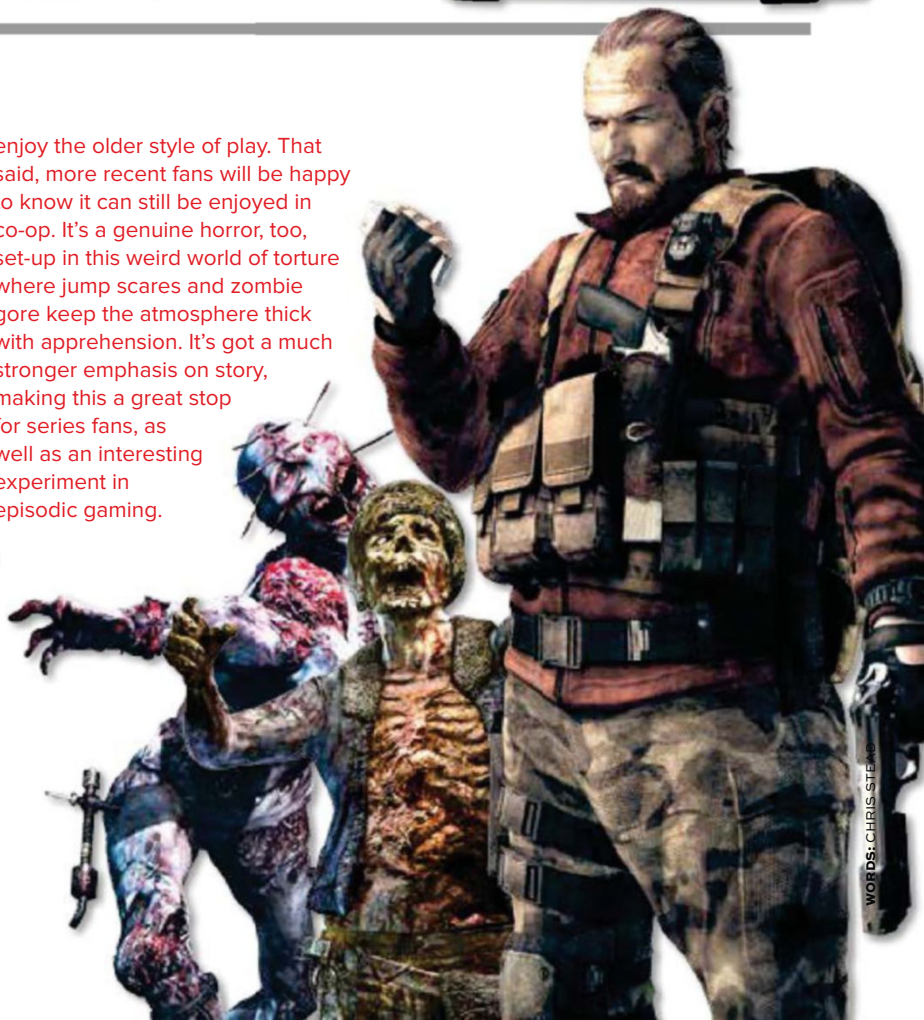
LONG STORY SHORT:

There are many less than stellar spin-offs in the *Resident Evil* series, but *Revelations* definitely deserves a spot next to the epic, main lineage. Released as four separate downloadable episodes, or in a "Full Season" box copy form, *Revelations 2* sits between *Resident Evil 5* and *6*, and brings fan-favourite Claire Redfield back to the forefront. The slower-paced, third-person gameplay for which the series is renowned returns – so fans who didn't like the heavy action antics of *Resident Evil 6* will

enjoy the older style of play. That said, more recent fans will be happy to know it can still be enjoyed in co-op. It's a genuine horror, too, set-up in this weird world of torture where jump scares and zombie gore keep the atmosphere thick with apprehension. It's got a much stronger emphasis on story, making this a great stop for series fans, as well as an interesting experiment in episodic gaming.

WHAT'S EVERYONE TALKING ABOUT?

- Monolith Productions wants an indie developer to take on a third entry in its *Condemned* series
- Nintendo has confirmed a new *Star Fox* game will be announced at this year's E3 event.
- For the first time, Bethesda will host its own E3 Conference this year, with *Doom 4* likely to star alongside *The Elder Scrolls Online* and potentially *Fallout 4*.
- Australian developer Firemonkeys (*Real Racing*) has been given the reigns of *Need for Speed: No Limits*, an all new entry in the series for mobile platforms.
- HD re-releases of DmC: *Devil May Cry*, *Borderlands 2*, *Borderlands: The Pre-Sequel*, *Don Bradman's Cricket* and *Dark Souls II* have all found their way to the Xbox One and PlayStation 4.



WORDS: CHRIS STEAD

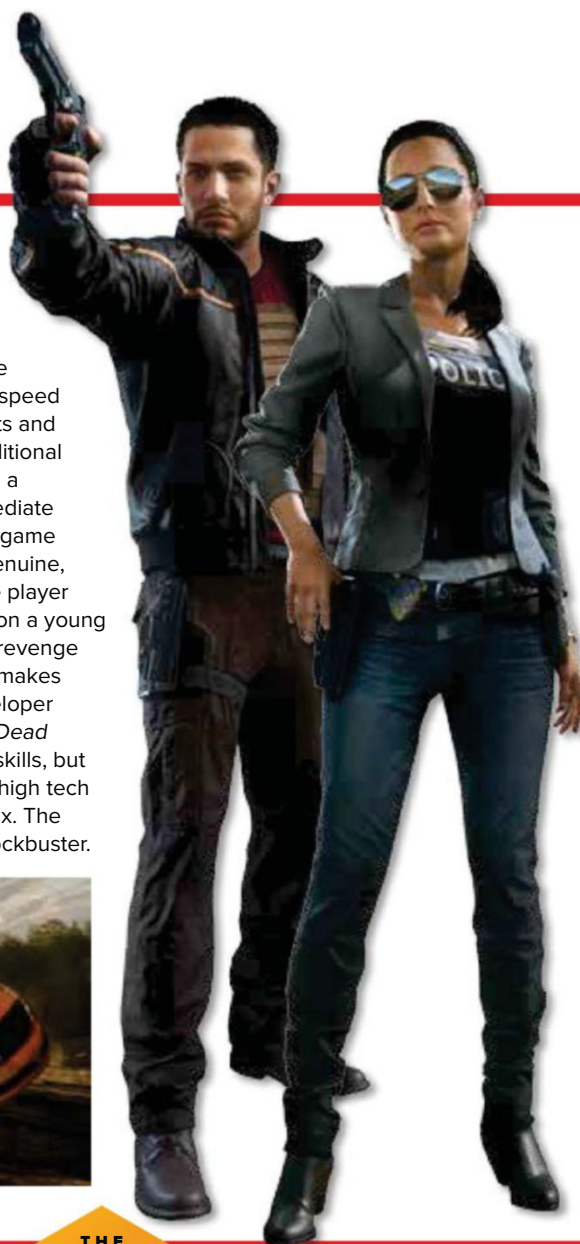
Battlefield Hardline

FORMAT: PC, PS4, XBO, PS3, 360
RELEASE: March 19

LONG STORY SHORT:

As excellent as the *Battlefield* series has been, the legendary online FPS gets a timely new spin with *Hardline*. It maintains the visceral, world decimating combat, but places it in a new cops and robbers theme. Where tanks and jets once menaced the landscape, now sports cars, motorbikes, ziplines and grappling hooks bring the action to everyday society. A stack of new gameplay

modes do an excellent job of capitalising on the theme, with high-speed chases, informants and heists joining traditional modes in offering a faster, more immediate style of play. The game also features a genuine, compelling single player mode – focused on a young detective out for revenge – which not only makes good use of developer Visceral Games (*Dead Space*) narrative skills, but adds stealth and high tech gadgets to the mix. The year's first big blockbuster.



THE BEST IN DOWNLOADABLE GAMES

Resident Evil HD Remaster (XBLA, PC, PSN): That's right, the original 1996 *Resident Evil* experience has been given a polish, had its wonky controls ironed out and been re-released.

Game of Thrones: Episode 2 – The Lost Lords (PC, PSN, XBLA, iOS, Android): Telltale Games' popular interactive narrative experience continues to offer new characters and stories in Westeros.

Oceanhorn: Monster of Uncharted Seas (PC, iOS, Android): This excellent *Zelda*-like adventure game was already a hit on mobiles and tablets, but this month also comes to PC.

Hand of Fate (PC, XBLA, PSN): Australian developer Defiant Development successfully mixes fluid *Batman*-like combat with action-RPG mechanics and a collectable card metagame – truly unique!

Ori and the Blind Forest (XBLA, PC): A classic Metroidvania platformer, as you play the young (if talented) guardian of light, left to fend for itself in a beautifully-drawn forest full of dark danger.

The Witcher III: Wild Hunt

FORMAT: PS4, XBO, PC
LIKE: *THE ELDER SCROLLS*, *LORD OF THE RINGS*, *GAME OF THRONES*

THE DEAL: Despite the lush foliage, realistic weather, rogue wildlife and vast and varied landscapes, *The Witcher III: Wild Hunt* is the greyest RPG experience you will come across. We talk of the subject matter, where “hero” Geralt roams a deep and complex ecosystem in which there are no good or bad decisions. The moral compass is broken. We were

able to spend a few hours playing an early build of the game this month and chatting with developer CD Projekt RED, both of whom impressed. Riding on horseback through the land, carving out our own path in-between immaculate cutscenes, randomised encounters, challenging hunts and meaningful quests is quite memorable. Combat is fast, fluid and not without strategy, and the developer promises over 100-hours of gameplay to boot. It's due May 19, and is most certainly one to watch.

THE
MAXIM
STAMP OF
APPROVAL!
ONE TO
WATCH



History's Darkest Secret

NAME: RIDE

DEVELOPER: MILESTONE S.R.L

FORMAT: PS4, XBO, PC, PS3, 360

GENRE: RACING

RELEASE: MARCH 20

Fans of four-wheeled racing have never been short of options when they sit down to their game consoles. For those who prefer the thrills of the two-wheeled variety, the offers haven't been as plentiful. One developer, however, has spent its entire career focused on the sport. Since 1999, Milestone has brought gamers the many instalments of the Superbike World Championship series, and worked on licenses such as MotoGP, MXGP and MUD. Now, the Italian studio is putting that 16-years of motorbike gaming experience into its first, owned IP – *Ride*. Hell yeah!

FOR BIKE LOVERS

As you can imagine from a developer with such a deep history in the genre, *Ride* panders to the enthusiasts in all the right ways. 114 bikes from 14 manufactures appear in the game, and they fall into the four broad categories of Naked, Supersports, Superbikes and

Historic. Each bike has been lovingly detailed so they both look and feel distinct and realistic. This love extends to customisation options. As you progress you earn access to authentic parts and accessories that you can use to tweak and experiment with each bike until you've got just the feel you are after. Its meticulous detail, and a salivating prospect for fans.

HITTING THE APEX

All that attention to detail on the bikes wouldn't mean a lot if you could not feel the difference on the tarmac and you'll certainly need to earn the right to progress up the tiers by mastering the personality of every ride. Once you've felt out the physics for a bike and tweaked it as you desire, leaning into corners and powering down the straight is exhilarating, with a great sense of speed that doesn't sacrifice a sense of weightiness and reality. Shifting your weight matters. You have to make sure you don't stall and capitalise on slipstreams. Get over-zealous and you'll be jumping the handle bars in a jiffy, watching your bike eat it big time. This is not an arcade game by any stretch, although a handy replay function does allow you to ease into the experience by trying failed sections again instantly.

CHEQUERED FLAG

Ride will launch with 15 circuits from around the globe, as well as locations such as the Sierra Nevada, English countryside and European cities to cruise through. 16 racers will hit the circuit at once, whether you go a single race, a championship or try to rise all the way to the top of the international rankings in the World Tour. Other modes include Drag, Endurance and the Overtake Track Day Challenge. The AI is quite competitive in these modes and offers a stiff challenge, but a robust 12-person Multiplayer component rounds out this excellent package. As well as racing head-to-head, you can form clubs with friends and race against other clubs for true glory.



We're excited to see Milestone branching out and doing its own thing, and being emancipated from any licenses has really brought out the developer's swagger. This feels like the game they must have been wanting to make for years, and thankfully, gamers are getting the full rewards!



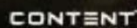
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KNOW YOUR ABCS

A = ALL ABOUT (WHAT THE HELL IS THIS THING?)

B = BITCHIN' BECAUSE (WHY THE HELL DO I WANT IT?)

C = CUNNING LINGUIST (HOW DO I GET THIS PAST THE MISSUS?)

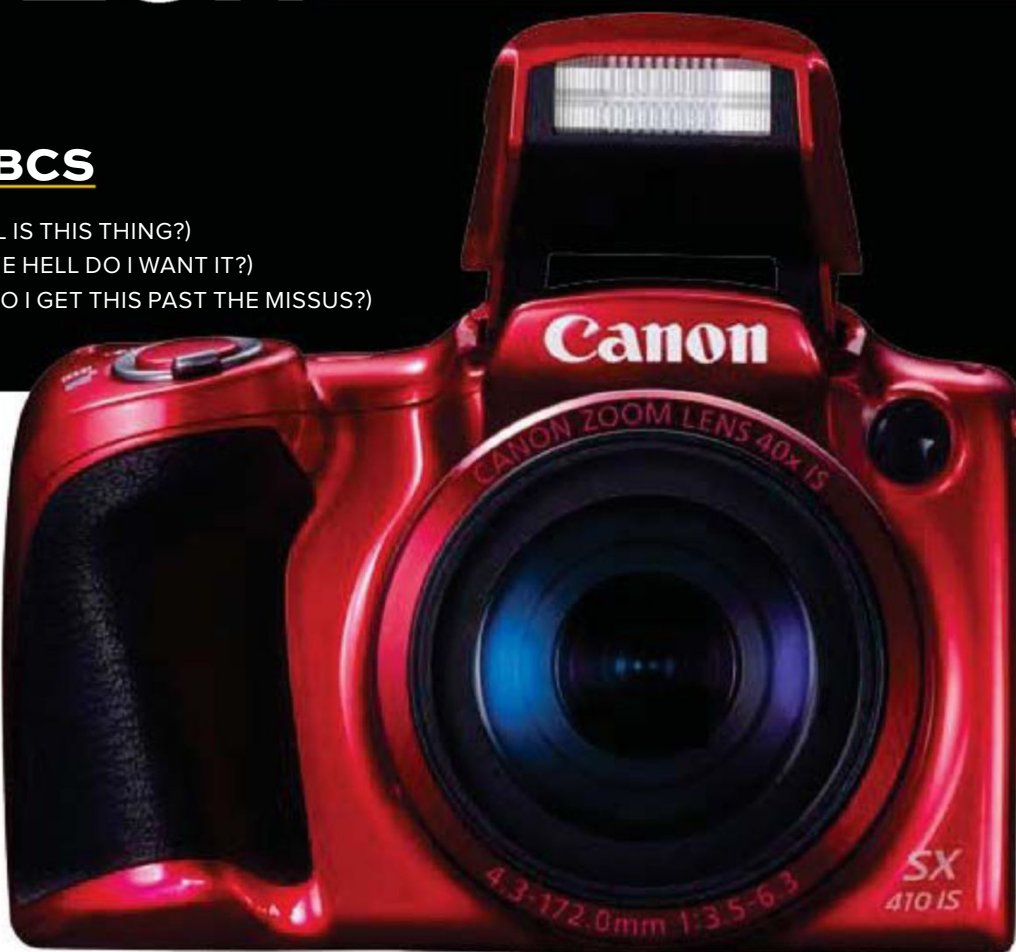
► CANON POWERSHOT SX410 IS

A: This amazing little camera from Canon is only 360g and 10cm long, but offers full HD filming, a 20.5MP lens and an amazing 40x Optical Zoom, backed up by at 80x ZoomPlus. It makes use of Sony's advanced DIGIC 4+ processor and image stabilising, and has a large 3" LCD screen.

B: It's an excellent travel camera, with 32 pre-set shot modes to select from, Canon's usual, excellent colour capture and an ergonomic, comfortable design.

C: "All the better to take you to Paris with..."

www.canon.com.au



◄ BRAVEN MIRA WIRELESS SPEAKER

A: With its 5" diameter and deep cylindrical shape, the Mira is not unlike a slightly enlarged hockey puck. Along its rim, however, are simple music and track controls, allowing it to wirelessly play sound from your mobile device through three internal speakers. The battery lasts for five-hours, and is charged via micro-USB.

B: The Mira has a really nice design, with a giant hook in the back that can act as a stand, or be flipped right around so it can hang from a ceiling, or indeed a shower. It's waterproof, and produces impressive sound with good bass, giving it plenty of flexibility.

C: "You know I like to sing in the shower"

www.braven.com



◄ LG G FLEX 2

A: A mobile with a curved design and screen is actually a lot more comfortable and immersive than you would expect. Especially when it's in full 1080p, uses the latest quad-score snapdragon processor, and has a light, scratch-resistant exterior. 4K video and a 13MP camera, join a battery that lasts

10-hours in full video-playback.

B: LG's first shot at the curved mobile was a bit of letdown, but this second attempt delivers on the promise of the idea, turning it from gimmick into something gorgeous.

C: "What? I can't hear you, but I'm sure you're as happy as I am!"

www.busisoft.com.au

NETFLIX HITS AUS

Things are really heating up in the streaming entertainment space, with Netflix – the huge movie and TV streaming service dominating the US market – joining the likes of Foxtel (Presto) and Fairfax (Stan) in the local market by officially launching in Australia this month. Netflix not only has an incredible library of classic films and TV shows on offer, it has also created its own unique content. The Netflix app is available on stacks of machines, from TVs and computer consoles to mobiles and tablets, and for the investment we expect Netflix to be a heck of a good option for Aussies with a decent Net connection of 0.5MBs and higher.

For more information about Netflix Australia, turn back to page 52.



◀ 2TB WD MY PASSPORT WIRELESS

A: Connecting this device to your home network or through the My Cloud app allows you to move 2TB worth of files about without using a single wire. There is an SD card slot, too, for the fast back-up or transfer of large slabs of data.
B: Potable storage space takes a huge step forward with this nifty beast. It's smaller than your hand, but can store and then stream 2TB of data between eight devices at once, and with a rechargeable battery with six-hours of life, you can do so while mobile.
C: "We won't have to delete those *Friends* episodes after all"
www.wdc.com



▼ SHIMANO SPORT CAMERA

A: The GoPro is taking the world by storm, but it is not the only option out there for the extreme cinematographer. The Shimano Sport Camera can give you two-hours of 1080p, HD recording from one battery life, taken through a nice 180-degree wide-angled, weatherproof lens.
B: At just 86g, it's super lightweight, and the front-facing lens allows you to hold the device in your fist surprisingly well – even to a depth of 10m.

The low-light F2.0 16MP lens works a treat in low light, and you can sync it with ANT compatible devices to overlay stats like heartrate and energy consumption.
C: "See watch the video, it's not that scary"
www.shimanofish.com.au



▼ DIAMANTINA POP UP HAMMOCK

A: Forget trees or installing poles, this nifty, 2m-long hammock is built from a strong polyester woven top with breathable mesh, and is suspended high above the ground to keep plenty of air flowing beneath that sweaty arse of yours. And yes, it has a beverage holder – shouldn't everything?
B: It's all about ease of

use, with a simple frame that pops-up and pops-down with ease, all packing away into a neat little carry bag. It holds 136kgs, too, so good for the "healthy" man, or perhaps you and a lucky stranger.
C: "Honest, it can fit two of us easy"
www.kangarootentcity.com.au



◀ LOGITECH CONFERENCECAM CONNECT

A: Now this is a cool idea. This cylindrical device houses a 90-degree angle, 4x Optical Zoom 1080p camera at its top, two omnidirectional, full-duplex echo and noise-cancelling microphones in its centre, and a 360-degree speaker at its bottom. It allows you to make conference calls where everyone in the room can be seen and heard.
B: You can wirelessly sync via Bluetooth or NFC all the devices in the room, allowing you to switch between devices to show specific presentations or data, plus it has an HDMI output so you can show the other end of the conference call on the big screen, too.
C: "My boss always gets what he wants"
www.logitech.com



Rated Tools

This is the most powerful rechargeable blower on the market, and the first to perform better than many petrol-powered models.

The first-ever 56-volt lithium-ion battery has 40% more power than the 36-volt battery. It is removable and interchangeable with all EGO tools. Inspired by advanced aeronautics technology, this lightweight compact design delivers longer run time, lower vibrations and an extended motor life. Best of all, it comes with an industry-best five-year warranty for tool and three-year warranty for battery. And no, it doesn't come with the gorgeous Laura who models it so eloquently for us today.

WOMAN WITH A TOOL

THE EGO
POWER+ BLOWER



PHOTOS: WAYNE DANIELS; HAIR & MAKE-UP: HELEN SHIELDS BENNETTS; STYLING: ELLE PERRING AND CHERYL TAN

TALKING HARDWARE WITH SCOTT CAM



🔩 Bosch Blue GSR 18 VE-2 LI Destroyer Drill Driver and GSB 18 VE-2 LI Destroyer Hammer Drill

These are ideal for tackling the toughest screw driving and drilling applications – extremely powerful, extremely robust and extremely easy to control. The 18V 6.0Ah Li-Ion battery is amazing! They're extremely powerful and are the most compact and lightweight in the 18V class - meaning you can work smarter not harder on the job. Featuring the 13mm metal auto lock chuck, the

Destroyer range offers high level clamping power over the entire lifetime of the tool. These 'destroyers' really are in a league of their own. Grab them now in both Barebones and Kit versions.



➡ Victa Line Trimmer:

Trimmers are ideal for any type of garden and grass maintenance. The Victa VTS2225 trimmer has a powerful 25cc full-crank 2-stroke engine, with easy starting mechanism and in-built clutch for durability and safety. Weighing in at just 5.2kg it is easy to get started and has a super-quiet 79dBA engine. It also has a great range of accessories available.



Hedger (ATH2220)

Keep your hedges looking neat and tidy by conveniently turning your Victa Trimmer into a hedger.

Lawn Edger Accessory (ATE2210)

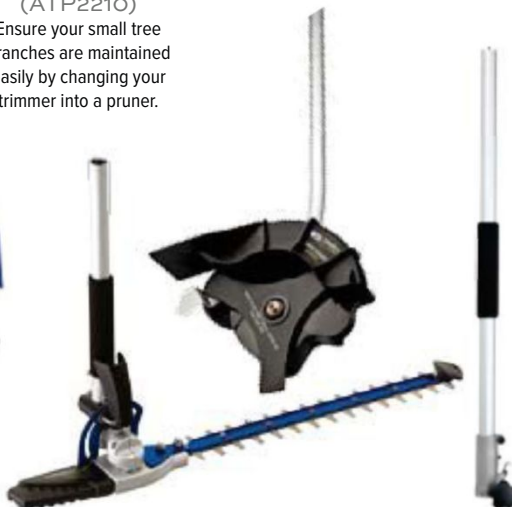
Get those lawn edges finished neatly by converting your trimmer into a Lawn Edger.

Pole Extension (AEX2700)

Extend the reach of your Pole Pruner or Hedger so you can reach those extra high hedges or branches.

Pole Pruner (ATP2210)

Ensure your small tree branches are maintained easily by changing your trimmer into a pruner.



⬆ Bosch Blue's Brushless Impact Driver/Wrench GDX 18 V-EC

Tools just got a whole lot smarter. Not only is Bosch Blue's GDX 18 V-EC Professional the first 18V brushless impact driver to feature a combined hexagon/square tool holder, it also features automatic shutdown technology to minimise kickback if the tool jams. And this beauty is no run-of-the-mill tool. The brushless EC motor is completely maintenance-free, giving it up to double the lifetime. And if you're sick of switching tools, then this is the driver/wrench for you. Gone are the days of fiddling with adapters and switching from one tool to another – with the GDX 18 V-EC Professional, all that's required is a simple accessory change. Sockets for large screw connections can be replaced in seconds with hex bits for smaller screw connections.



Style



Wise Guys

BECAUSE
YOU ALWAYS
WANTED TO BE
A GANGSTER
— OR AT LEAST
SWAGGER
LIKE ONE

When *Goodfellas* blazed its way into our lives in 1990, it was a revelation — a gangster film flush with brilliant humor, killer dialogue, and yes, style. Twenty-five years later, we can't help but admire that sensibility, the pull of those well-tailored basics embodied in these sleek modern-day bomber jackets, polos, and suit trousers, rocked by neighborhood pals who look every bit as sharp and stylish at the end of the night as when they sauntered into the bar. But make no mistake: This is not some retro trip; it's just how guys roll.

(From left)

Satin bomber jacket, **\$750**,
Maison Kitsune.
Cotton polo,
\$195, Lacoste.
Embroidered
silk bomber
jacket, **\$2,055**,
Marc Jacobs.
Navy polo, **\$145**,
J. Lindeberg.



(Above)

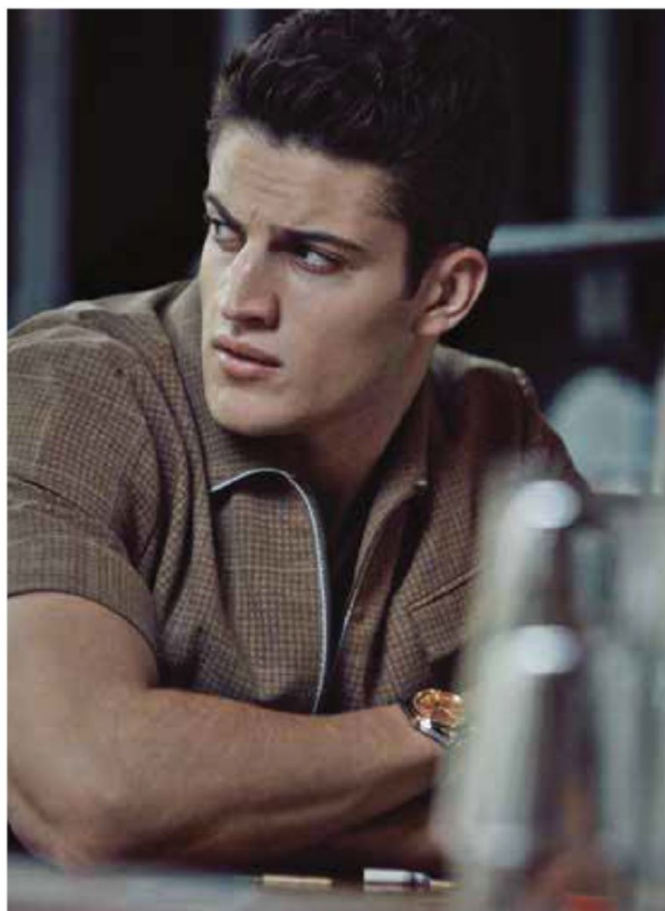
Blue notch-lapel jacket, **\$1,950**, and trousers, **\$995**, Roberto Cavalli. Charcoal knit tank, **\$198**, John Varvatos. Seamaster 300 Co-Axial Master timepiece in 18kt gold, **\$34,200**, Omega. OS 1073/S sunglasses, **\$98**, Oxydo. Cotton sateen bus-driver jacket, **\$995**, Todd Snyder. Tricot T-shirt, **\$250**, Tomorrowland. Silk and wool trousers, **\$850**, Bally.

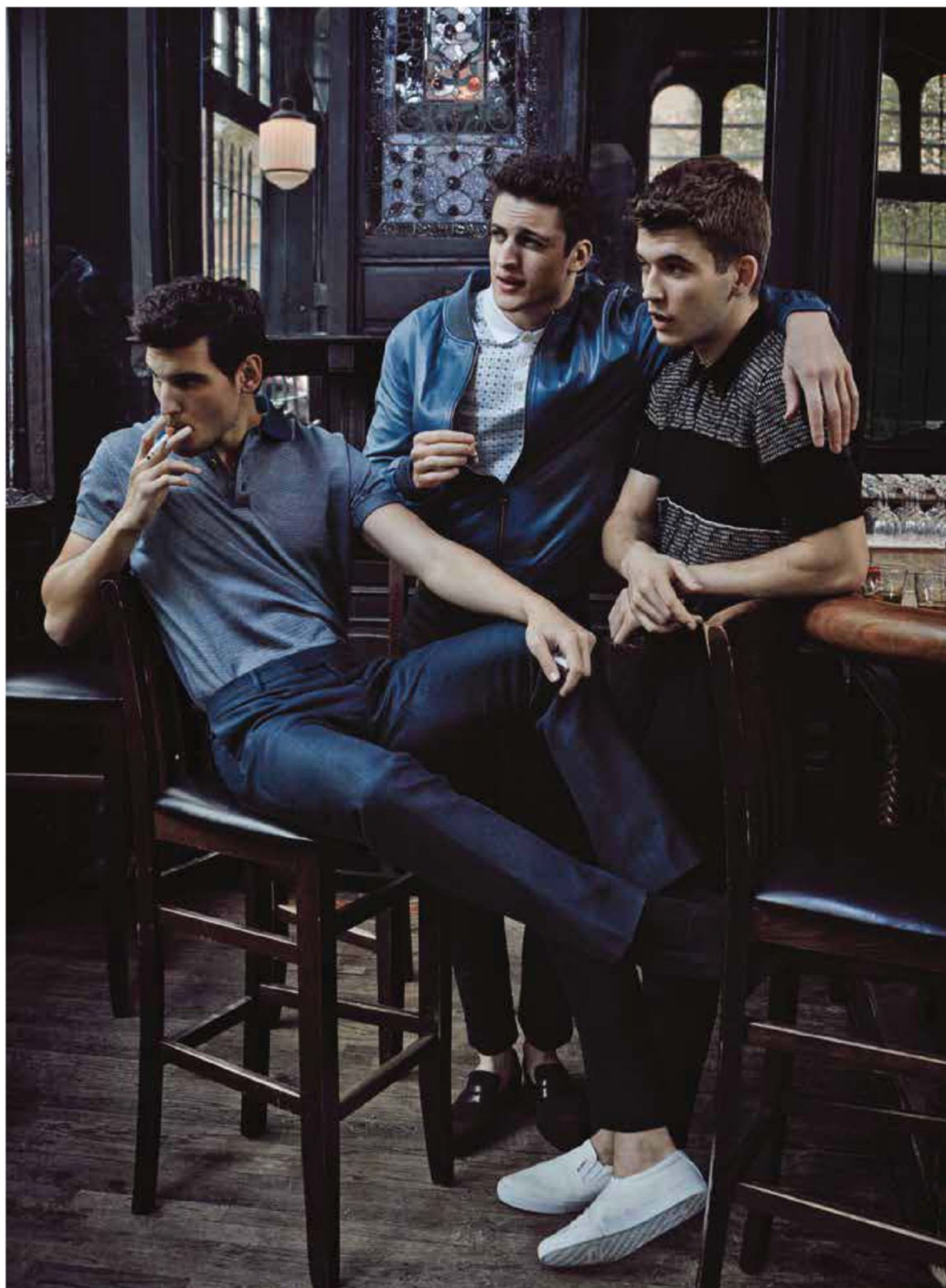
(Right)

Wool zip-front plaid shirt, **\$2,800**, Salvatore Ferragamo. Dark-green silk shirt, price upon request, Emporio Armani. Seamaster Aqua Terra timepiece, **\$12,000**, Omega.

(Opposite page From left)

Polo, **\$375**, Ermenegildo Zegna. Pleated trousers, **\$410**, Porsche Design. Suede loafers, **\$95**, Jack Erwin. Blue leather bomber jacket, **\$795**, BOSS Hugo Boss. Jacquard-front Geo polo, **\$69**, Original Penguin. Orsk trousers, **\$335**, Peuterey. Loafers, **\$650**, Fratelli Rossetti. Lifeguard polo, **\$275**, Lucio Castro. Pleated trousers, **\$225**, and leather belt, **\$98**, Michael Kors. White canvas slip-on sneakers, **\$199**, DKNY.









(From left)

V-front polo, **\$1,070**, Louis Vuitton. Trousers, **\$306**, Oliver Spencer. Navy Sunset belt, **\$55**, Will Leather Goods. Suede jacket, **\$5,405**, Brunello Cucinelli. Knit tank, **\$198**, John Varvatos. Copper pleated cotton trousers, **\$2,090**, Salvatore Ferragamo. Circa timepiece, **\$795**, Movado. Goat-suede jacket, **\$2,398**, John Varvatos. Moss-green polo, **\$375**, Ermenegildo Zegna. Blue pleated cotton trousers, **\$1,850**, Salvatore Ferragamo. White waffle-knit polo, **\$45**, Perry Ellis. Pink linen blazer, **\$1,095**, Hickey Freeman. Trousers, **\$750**, Ermenegildo Zegna. Constellation timepiece, **\$8,900**, Omega. Gray leather belt, **\$75**, BOSS Hugo Boss.

PHOTOS: SERGI PONS

STYLING: SETH HOWARD;
STYLING ASSISTANT,

DANI MORALES; **GROOMING:**

PAUL MERRITT AT DEFACIO

USING KÉRASTASE

ALL PRICES IN US DOLLARS



WOMAN OF THE WORLD

A
THRILL
FROM
BRAZI



L

Supermodel
**LISALLA
MONTENEGRO
WILSON** loves
fast cars, fastballs,
and obsessing
crazily over *Game
of Thrones*. Got a
problem with that?

PHOTOS: JAMES MACARI
WORDS: IAN DALY

“COPS DON’T
CARE THAT
I’M A MODEL.
I HAVEN’T TRIED
THE SQUISHING-
THE-BOOBS
THING TO GET
OUT OF A TICKET
YET. MAYBE
THAT’LL WORK
NEXT TIME.”

(this page)
Swimsuit, ViX.
Necklaces,
Helen Ficalora.

(previous spread)
Swimsuit, **Lenny
Niemeyer.** Rings, **Le
Mos** and **Diaboli Kill.**

"I was trying to kiss him and be friendly, but he wasn't into me at all," recalls Lisalla Montenegro Wilson of her Valentine's Day date from hell two years ago. So what kind of guy spurns the advances of a 175cm Brazilian supermodel – one with a figure flawless enough for Victoria's Secret, a face worthy of Maybelline, and a smile straight out of our dreams? Turns out: the kind with feathers.

"We were doing a shoot in Brazil with a huge parrot," she says, "and he bit me! I screamed: 'Get this thing out of my hand!'" Not to worry. Since then, the 26-year-old has stepped up her relationships, landing a dude with no (visible) feathers, a left arm like a lightning bolt, and a \$77.5 million contract with the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim – pitcher C.J. Wilson. I catch up with Lisalla in a quiet café downstairs at the Montage Beverly Hills hotel. She's straight from the gym, dressed in skintight black yoga pants and a blue baby tee. Here goes.

After checking out your Instagram and Twitter, I have one question: Three-hour daily workouts? Seriously?

I have an amazing trainer, and she's always pushing me to go further. We amuse ourselves by coming up with these really funny names for exercises – dirty names. Some of the other trainers will come over and be like, "Yeah, I was going to use this equipment," and we're like, "You do this? This is for girls only!" And he's like, "What?" We say, "Forget it, dude. It's an inside joke." So, yeah. We keep it dirty.

You're from Brazil, and C.J. is American. So how's his Portuguese?

It's pretty cool. He mixes the Portuguese



"WHEN THEY
AIRED THE
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SEASONS AGO,
I ACTUALLY CRIED.
I WAS SO MAD,
I COULDN'T
SLEEP FOR
TWO NIGHTS."

(opposite page)
Bottom, **Clover Canyon**.
Jewelry, **Le Mos**.

(this page)
Swimsuit, **Milly Cabana**. Cuffs,
Jennifer Fisher. Ring,
Diaboli Kill. Three-band
ring, **Merewif Jewelry**.
Earrings, **We Who Prey**.

words he knows with Spanish, which for us is easy. He was talking to my dad, explaining how hitting a baseball works and explaining the pitch, and I'm like, I'm gonna marry this guy. Someone taking the time to explain their profession to your family? In their language? I mean, that's effort. That won a lot of points.

Did you follow baseball in Brazil?

I wish. Before we actually met, I didn't know what pitcher meant. I had a lot to learn. I remember the first time I watched a game on TV, I was like, "Wow, this is like something in Chinese. There's so many rules, so many details!" I thought it was the hardest thing. Now I'm obsessed. I read the articles, I talk about it, I get mad. I curse sometimes. It's like soccer: You get into it, and it becomes your passion. It's my life, and I love it. I couldn't see myself without baseball now.

You've modeled for Lexus, and C.J. is a gearhead. Is it rubbing off on you?

We have a lot of car books in our house, we watch a lot of races, and it's one of the main things we record on TV. C.J. knows all the rules and racers. He even makes the noises! I'm not really into specific details. I'm more into the feel of the car.

Would you say you're a fast driver?

When I'm driving with someone, I'm more cautious because it's another life with me. But then when I'm by myself, I'm like, "Let's do it! YOLO!" Kind of like, how you guys call it? Speed demon.

Do you play the supermodel card when you get pulled over?

They don't really care. I haven't tried the squishing-the-boobs thing yet! [laughs] Maybe that'll work for me next time. I got a speeding ticket one time in Texas. I was late for my flight – not that that's really an excuse – and then I got lost going a zillion times around the airport and couldn't figure out exactly where to exit. The Dallas airport is crazy big. And the cop was hidden. I was going, like, 90. The speed limit was, I don't know – 55?

Your hometown is a place in the middle of Brazil called Goiânia. What's it like?

Lots of nature. We have cowboys, farms, waterfalls, a lot of colorful clothes, great food. I lose my mind when I go back to Brazil. I cheat on my diet every day. It's really hard to eat healthy in Brazil. C.J. was like, "This is weird. I thought Brazilians were healthy." I was like, "No, babe, look at their butts." Look, but don't really look!

Do you and C.J. have any weird things in common?



“AS SOON
AS YOU GET
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IT’S LIKE,
‘WHAT?! HOW
DARE YOU
GUYS!’”

We both are crazy about certain things – like when you go to sleep in a hotel room, if a little light comes through the window, both of us freak out. The light of a watch bothers me. I need to cover it up with a piece of clothing. He's the same way as me. We literally put our shoes up to the window to close it up tight. We use the pillows, some of our clothes. We use everything that we have. We push towels under the doors. Freak couple!

I also know from your Twitter that you're emotionally invested in *Game of Thrones*.

Maybe too much. When they aired the *Red Wedding* episode a couple of seasons ago, I actually cried. I was so mad, I couldn't sleep for two nights. I tweeted that I hate the show. As soon as you get attached to someone, they kill them – and it's like, What?! How dare you guys! Who wrote this shit? No!

But clearly you're going to watch the next season.

Absolutely. I'm obsessed. C.J. is obsessed now, too, so we're going to watch Season 5 together. I love the dragons. I was like, "Can I get a dragon tattoo on my back?" I'm still thinking about it.

What was it like watching the World Cup from California?

When Brazil was scoring, I was jumping on my couch. My puppy was jumping on the couch. I would run crazily around the house. And then C.J. was upstairs in his office, and I would go up there and just yell, "Yeahhhhh!" and I would kiss him and go back downstairs. I don't have that many Brazilian friends in LA, so I was just partying by myself.

What kind of music do you listen to?

I'm into love songs. I'm all about the '80s. I like U2, Journey. *Don't Stop Believin'* is my jam. You can't ever change that. Every time it comes on, I'm singing out loud – in the car, the shower – everywhere. I love karaoke. It's fun. But honestly, I'm not great at it. Everybody who hears me singing would agree that's definitely one thing I need to get better at. I could never make money singing.

How do people react when you sing?

"Please don't do that again." It'd be nice to sing cool. But everybody in my life – even my father-in-law – tells me, "Please don't do that again." He's like, "Liz, I'm glad you're a model."

STYLIST: MICHELA BURATTI FOR ART DEPARTMENT;
HAIR: ROB TALTY AT THE MAGNET AGENCY USING
BUMBLE AND BUMBLE; **MAKE-UP:** TRACEY LEVY AT
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HOW-TO

RAAG BHATIA FROM SHAVING AND FACIAL FUZZ WEBSITE, WWW.MENSBIZ.COM.AU, OFFERS THESE TOP TIPS FOR USING BEARD OILS AND BALMS

● Opting for oil? Begin by applying around four to six drops to your fingers or the palm of your hand.

► Gently work it through your beard, ensuring you rub it into your skin and thoroughly through all the beard whiskers.

► If you have a beard comb, combing the beard oil through is a wise option. Apply daily or as needed.

● Think balm is better? Simply scoop a small amount out of the tub with your fingers and massage it between them to soften it up.

► Work it through your beard evenly, rubbing it into the skin underneath.

► You can also use your beard balm for a mild styling effect, so shape your beard as desired using a comb or your fingers.



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Sex

WORDS: GRANT STODDARD

The (Only) Reason to PAY FOR PORN

It's not about action; it's about intimacy



Have you made a call from a payphone recently? Renting a DVD? Used the services of a travel agent or a one-hour photo center? If, for some odd reason, you have, you'll have no doubt asked yourself: "Do people still do this?" The very same question was whizzing around my head as I was compelled — in 2014 — to pay for pornography on the Internet.

I bought my first laptop in 2003 and minutes after it first whirled to life, I discovered a cornucopia of sites where lovingly curated and categorized porn clips could be streamed gratis. It was a big day — if not a productive one. I was not alone. Over the following two years, the number of people who, like me, felt entitled to free adult entertainment surpassed the number of people paying for it. Not surprisingly, the effect of this de facto free-for-all on the adult entertainment biz was less erotic suffocation and more a pillow over the face.

But rumors of porn's demise have been greatly exaggerated. The people still managing to make money from digitally delivered smut are just smarter than they used to be: They've learned that sexual content can be devalued in a way that intimacy can't. At least, not until a vastly improved iteration of Siri comes out.

The demand for intimacy is why countless camgirls are making more significant money than all but a handful of adult performers making a living from movies. It's why Sasha Grey, a flat but expressive brunette, usurped Jenna Jameson's throne. It's why Customs4U, a company that enables users to (kind of) direct clips starring performers as esteemed and accomplished as Tera

Patrick, was one of the only exhibitors at the 2014 AVN Adult Entertainment Expo with anything to smile about.

It's also why I — a dyed-in-the-wool frugalist and long-time smut pilferer — forked over my credit card details to [kink.com](#) after seeing a brief snippet of content containing absolutely zero sex.

Kink peddles BDSM. I like several porn genres and tropes but I wouldn't say that that BDSM — an overlapping abbreviation of Bondage and Discipline (BD) Dominance and Submission (DS) Sadism and Masochism (SM) — is a go to. That said, these San Francisco-based dungeon masters made me get my penis and plastic out because of the way that each and every one of their hardcore scenes is bookended.

Before the scene proper is shot, an off-screen female interviewer chats with the talent about the various procedures meant to guarantee their comfort, safety and enjoyment. She then asks questions relating to the typically erudite, charming and thoughtful performers' previous experiences in BDSM and what she or he hopes to derive from the scene at hand — a scene that ostensibly, they themselves have scripted. The post-scene interview is conducted with the usually beatific performer, still naked, breathless and glazed in a variety of natural and synthetic fluids, ebulliently and eloquently recounting various aspects of the scene, focusing on his or her personal highlights and challenges.

I'd entered my credit card details before I had time to think why this particular website had so tripped my trigger quite so hard. Since then I've realized

that I responded to the efforts taken to give performers a voice and present them, not just as actual people, but as empowered people who derive a great deal of pleasure and well-being from what they're doing: People who are given the opportunity explicitly articulate their consent.

Now, as much as I would like to, I can't truly know if say, Krissie Dee actually does love enacting a sorority hazing fantasy any more than I can be 100% sure that the eggs I eat come from happy, healthy free-range hens. All I know is that those eggs taste way better and that I, a veteran miser/scrimper/tight-wad, will happily pay \$6.99/dozen for them. Same goes for porn: Better smut commands a higher price, which is to say that it commands a price at all.

Free-range, fair-trade porn just works way better for me — and not for merely ethical reasons. The reason it works is that I'm no longer as interested in watching people f—king as I am in watching an individual woman get f—ked. It's not 2003 and it's not particularly extreme, but a little bit of thought and a lot of eye contact goes a long way. Whether you flex the plastic or not, you get the porn you paid for — which means I'm probably watching better porn than you.



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24 HOURS TO LIVE

Merrick Watts

Host of Triple M's *Merrick...and Australia*, takes us through his final day on Earth

How do you want to die?

In a blaze of glory, aged 97, laying in a comfortable bed wearing an adult diaper complaining about a war I wasn't alive to fight in.

Do you have any deathbed confessions?

Only that I loved myself more than everyone standing around me.

What's your last meal?

I would say either Bún bò Huế (Vietnamese soup) or 11 packets of Cheese Twisties and a bottle of Grange.

Are you going to Heaven or Hell?

I'm going to Heaven because I'm awesome and only the humble are admitted to Heaven.

What do you say to God?

Hey bro, you know all those times you laughed at my misfortune? Well, I just introduced Jesus to skunk weed. Enjoy!

What's the funniest Merrick Watts sketch or joke that never made it on air?

There have been so many but I once wrote a sketch about some unfortunate incidents that took place in a wood working class at well-known private boys' school Knox. It didn't make it to legal, in

fact it didn't even make it to the printer but I still think it was funny.

To whom on Earth do you owe an apology and what for?

Ms Norton my high school teacher. It is your human right to wear a home-made woollen poncho to class without fear of being teased for looking like a marsupial tee pee. Also, that time when

I pointed out you had two odd shoes on at assembly and that time I...

Which comedy legends will you hang out with in the afterlife and what do you say to them?

Why would I hang out with people who are better than me? That is the sole reason my radio show is solo, I don't need the comparisons.

What have you spent the most money on in your life?

My family and I will never regret a cent of it.

What's your greatest achievement during your time on Earth?

If you ask my five-year-old son, "What does your Dad do for a job?" He answers, "He makes people happy." I am rapt that my purpose in life is to make other people happy.

What's the craziest thing you ever did here on Earth?

I've been fortunate enough to do so many incredible things as part of my work, jump out of planes, fly with Red Bull, drive a tank, catch a flying arrow... but possibly the craziest thing I did was telling my wife that the dress she just bought from Scanlan & Theodore looked like something she picked up at the markets.

What are people saying over your casket?

"He was a good bloke who talked too much" but mainly about how good a bloke he was.

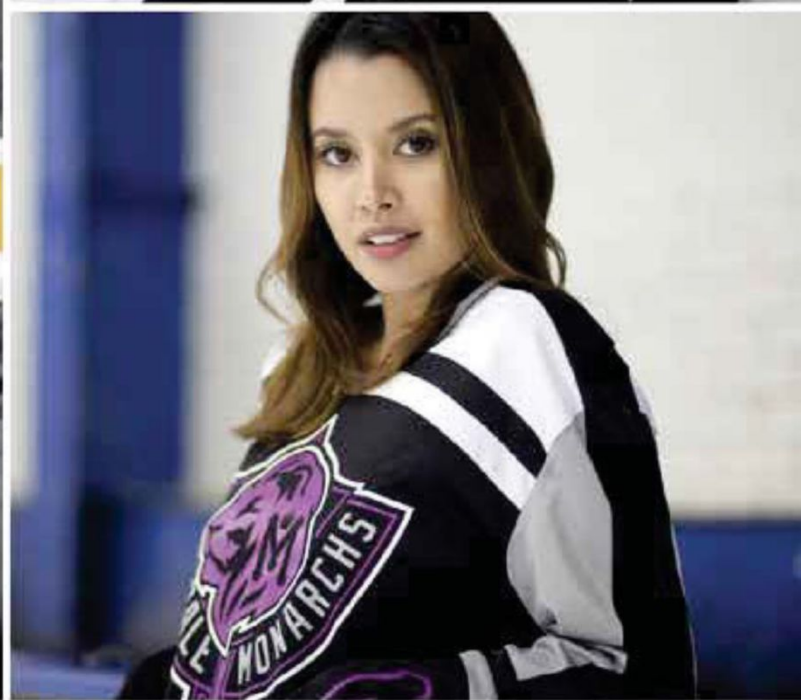
What's written on your tombstone?

Here lies Merrick Watts, Husband to Georgie, Father to Wolfe and Kinga and Clown to the world.

Got any last words?

Thanks for the laughs, f--kers.

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